LIFE

OF THE

COUNT CAGLIOSTRO.

PRICE THREE SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.

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Lucia.

THE

LIFE

OF THE

COUNT CAGLIOSTRO;

CONTAINING

An authentic Relation of the uncommon Incidents that befel him during his Reſidence in England in the Years 1776 and 1777.

His Arrival in France; his Commitment to the Baſtile—His Trial, Acquittal, and Baniſhment.

His Return to England in 1786; particular Anecdotes of him till 1787: and, laſtly, a Detail of the Circumſtances which occaſioned his Departure for Switzerland.

DEDICATED TO

MADAME LA COMTESSE DE CAGLIOSTRO.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR;

AND SOLD BY T. HOOKHAM, BOND-STREET;

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1787.

BRITISH MUSEUM

TO

MADAME LA COMTESSE DE CAGLIOSTRO.

MADAME,

THE pleaſure which every ſuſceptible mind muſt experience in the vindication of an injured character, I conſider, in the preſent inſtance, much heightened by the opportunity it offers me of addreſsing a lady not leſs diſtinguiſhed by amiable qualities than undeſerved misfortunes.

"The cup of felicity, pure and unmixed," ſays an elegant author, "is

" is by no means a draught for " mortal man :" Yet permit me, Madame, to lament that ingratitude and calumny has ſo fatally imbittered yours. The united lives of yourſelf and the Count illuſtrate, I confeſs, a melancholy truth, that neither virtue nor the moſt rigid circumſpection of manners will always ſhield the poſſeſſor from the machinations of vice. Envy too frequently treads on the heels of ſcience; and detraction will ever point her envenomed ſhaft toward the worthy part of mankind. Yet, though ſevere the trials we are doomed in this tranſitory ſtate to encounter, I am ſenſible you will join

join me in conſidering *Virtue its own recompenſe.*

A principal part of the events, which compoſe the narrative I now take the liberty of offering for your peruſal, are extracted from *La Lettre de Comte Caglioſtro au Peuple d'Anglois*, and other of his Memoirs. I flatter myſelf the work will meet with your approbation, as you will find it contains an impartial detail of the moſt remarkable events of the Count's life. Happy did I poſſeſs eloquence to ſubdue thoſe prejudices which, by the fouleſt miſrepreſentations of facts, but too generally, with

with regard to the Count Caglioſtro, reign in the minds of the public. But, while I lament my inability, I have this conſolation, that *truth*, as the poet ſays of beauty,

" Needs not the foreign aid of ornament,
" But is when unadorn'd adorn'd the moſt."

With the ſincereſt hope that you may loſe the remembrance of paſt ſorrows in an uninterrupted ſeries of future happineſs, I take the liberty of ſubſcribing myſelf,

MADAME,

With all due Reſpect,

Your moſt obedient

Humble Servant,

LUCIA.

PREFACE.

I HAVE been encouraged to venture on the publication of the Count de Caglioſtro's Life, by the information I have obtained from ſeveral perſons, whoſe unblemiſhed integrity, and intimate connexion with that extraordinary character, render their authority undoubted. In thoſe incidents I have extracted from the various accounts publiſhed of Mr. Caglioſtro, I have been particularly cautious to preſent my readers with ſuch

facts only as are interesting and authentic. But before I enter on this task, it may not be improper to take a cursory view of those charges brought against the Count by the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe. There cannot surely be a being against whom our indignation more justly rises than the man who, under the specious guise of public spirit, gratifies a private pique or pecuniary demand by deliberately blasting the reputation of another.

For the honour of humanity I would fain, with the reader, believe this portrait to be the child only of imagination, did not the many calumnious paragraphs published in the Courier de l'Europe, at the expense of the Count Cagliostro, prove it to be " un fils infortuné de la nature *."

* The Author flatters herself she will not be censured for adopting this favourite phrase, rendered for some time past so eminently conspicuous in almost every page of that paper.

But

But let me aſk the reader, can there be any confidence placed in the aſſertions of a man who, from his own accounts, erects a new opinion on every vague report?

Mr. De Morande at firſt profeſſes himſelf an enemy to the Count Caglioſtro, merely from the prejudices of *report*. Again; from the flattering teſtimonies of approbation laviſhed on him by the diſcerning people of Paris, on his acquittal from an injurious charge, he becomes his warm advocate, and publiſhes on the occaſion, but without reflection he ſays, a letter of high panegyric in the Courier de l'Europe. Soon after this he ſtumbles on another opinion; or, as Falſtaff ſays, "opinion lay in his way, and he found it." But perfectly convinced of, as he aſſures us, the fallacy of his former affirmations, this ingenious cenſor ſuffers the public to remain three months in error, becauſe, he ſays, it would have appeared ridiculous immediately

to have contradicted his own aſſertions *. And why ſo, Mr. Editor? Is it not the greateſt proof of a liberal mind to acknowledge an error on the moment of its diſcovery? But if we may be allowed to account for this ſilence, from what follows we ſhall believe it to originate from an intended negociation with Mr. Caglioſtro.

Mr. Swinton, formerly a proprietor of the Courier de l'Europe, at whoſe houſe the Count, on his arrival in town, viſited, had more than once congratulated him on the encomiums occaſionally beſtowed on him in the above paper; and obſerving the infinite advantage his reputation would acquire from theſe paragraphs, ventured clearly to point out to him the *means* that would enſure their continuance. Mr. Caglioſtro, however, diſregarding this advice, the

* See the Courier de l'Europe, No. 20, page 156.

Editor

Editor aſcribed his inſenſibility to the ill addreſs of his negociator, and in a few days renewed his ſuit to the Count *in propria perſona*; elated with the hopes of obtaining a *card blanche* for the ſuppreſſion of that abuſe which, on all occaſions, he has ſo perfectly at command. But hold —— this viſit, we are aſſured by Mr. De Morande, was the effect of mere curioſity! The Count not reflecting, perhaps, that our Editor owned a paper of extenſive circulation, in which he could exerciſe the happy art which Gay aſcribes to the lawyers, who, he tells us, "twiſt *words* and *meanings* as they pleaſe," treated his propoſals and ridiculous menaces with that contempt they will ever experience from an honeſt and ingenuous mind: and from that moment Mr. De Morande became his implacable and avowed enemy. His reſentment might, however, have ſpent itſelf in a few defamatory paragraphs, had not intereſt added a new ſpur to his malignity.

The reader is, without doubt, acquainted with the ſuit commenced by Mr. Caglioſtro againſt the governor of the Baſtile, and others, for the iniquitous plunder of his property; he will not, therefore, ſuppoſe that the defendants, while a cauſe of ſuch importance was depending, would omit either expenſe or trouble to invalidate the aſſertions of their adverſary. The abilities of Mr. De Morande were perfectly of a nature to admit him on the liſt of defamatory ſcribblers employed to circulate reports to the diſadvantage of Mr. Caglioſtro, with the view of proving his pretenſions a mere chimera.

By the moſt illiberal ſuggeſtions, the blackeſt calumnies, and total perverſion of facts, the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe has endeavoured to effect this; nay, he has more than once had ſo little policy as to draw openly the above concluſion from his own

own libels: but it muſt be confeſſed that he frequently defeats his own purpoſe by too great an eagerneſs to injure the reputation of Mr. Caglioſtro. Nor is this ſurpriſing when we remember that the moſt baneful creatures often carry about them an antidote to their own venom.

Mr. De Morande had yet another incentive in this buſineſs: "There are ſecrets in all trades," ſays the old adage. The Editor of a newſpaper, therefore, who is acquainted with his buſineſs, will be ſenſible that nothing will further the circulation of his paper more than a *paper war*, in which, at all events, he will certainly engage. The talents of Mr. De Morande in this line had, it is true, for ſome time remained dormant; having more than once nearly involved him in diſagreeable conſequences: for the explanation of which, I muſt entreat my readers to caſt a retroſpect on his affair with the

Reverend Mr. Bates, Madame the Chevalier de Eon, M. le Comte de Lôrague, &c. &c.

However, as he probably concludes there is leſs danger of a *perſonal aſſault* in attacking a philoſopher, he has ventured to exert his moſt ſtrenuous efforts to provoke Mr. Caglioſtro to enter the liſts with him in his own way. But a contemptuous *ſilence* is the only return he has been able to obtain, unleſs it is when the Count ludicrouſly invites him to come and *be poiſoned with a pig of his dreſſing* *. It is really to be lamented that ſo much induſtry has not met with its due reward!

Mr. De Morande attacks the Count on the variety of names and titles he has aſſumed in his travels; although of this information he would probably have remained ignorant, had not the Count himſelf candidly particularized them in his Memoir: yet this Me-

* See the Public Advertiſer, Sept. 3, 1786.

moir

moir is conſtantly reprobated by Mr. De Morande as an intire fiction: why then does he place the leaſt confidence in any part of it? But I forget; this gentleman is a perfect adept in extracting *black* from *white*; although from the various experiments he has made on himſelf, he has never yet been able to tranſmute the *former* into the *latter*. To return, however, from this digreſſion: a charge of this nature cannot poſſibly injure Mr. Caglioſtro in the opinion of any diſcerning individual; while he continues to ſupport thoſe names with honour, which are ſo particularly the object of our Editor's reſentment, he can not ſurely incur cenſure for making uſe of that privilege which is equally the right of every traveller who is deſirous of remaining *incognito*.

Mr. De Morande boldly invites thoſe perſons whoſe abilities and rank in life he is conſcious place them at too great a diſtance to regard the interrogatories of a newſpaper ſcribbler,

ſcribbler, to confirm or contradict his infamous aſſertions with regard to Mr. Caglioſtro. But, in ſome inſtances, where a public refutation is more to be dreaded, he conducts himſelf with a greater degree of caution: — when he aſcribes his generoſity to intereſted motives — when he limits his extenſive benevolence to ſo narrow a compaſs as two or three inſtances, he is ſenſible that the voice of a grateful people might riſe to confute him. He contents himſelf therefore with requeſting, that each individual who has known the Count will *interrogate themſelves* only on his conduct *. From which it is to be inferred, that thoſe who have not had the honour of knowing Mr. Caglioſtro are intirely to reſt their faith on that inexhauſtible fountain of truth — the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe!

How repeatedly has he invoked all the courts of Germany to diſavow the diſtin-

* See the Courier de l'Europe, No. 23, page 182.

guiſhed

guiſhed reception with which they have honoured the Count Caglioſtro. The Courier de l'Europe, he ſays, is read in all thoſe courts, yet his invocation is unnoticed.

How repeatedly has he called on thoſe illuſtrious perſons, by whom the Count profeſſes himſelf to have been honoured and received, to contradict his aſſertions? He has deſcriptively publiſhed their names, with ſuch vile comments on the conduct of Mr. Caglioſtro, as muſt naturally have induced them, had not the aſſertions of the latter been well-founded, to have diſclaimed any knowledge of a character ſo infamous; yet all the calumnious addreſſes of Mr. De Morande has not been able to obtain one well-atteſted refutation. Conſtrained at length to admit that the Count has been received and carreſſed by ſeveral of thoſe diſtinguiſhed perſons, he qualifies this reluctant conviction with the ſuggeſtion, that they

reſpected

reſpected him only becauſe they did not know him.

With all due reverence to the abilities of Mr. De Morande it is to be preſumed, that among ſo large a number of illuſtrious perſons, there might be ſome few as good judges of merit, and perſons of as perfect diſcernment, as the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe; and yet it is a bold ſuppoſition when we contemplate the aſtoniſhing powers of that great man!

Mr. De Morande modeſtly aſks the public, Whether the man *who by falſe pretences cheats the world of their opinion*, is not more culpable than he who enters the ſhop of a tradeſman and defrauds him of his property?

Purſuing his example, I will aſk, Whether the man who alternately fabricates ſuppoſitious

ſitious crimes in one nation, with the view of prejudicing the other againſt an injured and innocent character, ſhould not be conſidered an object of univerſal deteſtation?

In No. 22, page 175, of the Courier de l'Europe, we are informed, that Mr. Caglioſtro, after being conſtrained to put off the uniform of a Spaniſh Colonel, was ignominiouſly expelled Peterſburgh. For this *calumny*, the falſehood of which has been too clearly proved by the Baron de Corberon, charge d'affaires of France and Ruſſia, during the reſidence of Mr. Caglioſtro at Peterſburgh, and miniſter plenipotentiary, to need further refutation, the Editor has had recourſe to the Memoirs of Madame de la Motte; and, it is probable, from the evidence contained in that calumnious work, that Mr. De Morande has the audacity to queſtion, or at leaſt to pretend to queſtion, the juſtice of that acquittal, ſo ſolemnly awarded

awarded to Mr. Caglioſtro, by the parliament of Paris.

Mr. De Morande is at infinite pains to perſuade us that the Count reſided in London in 1772, under the name of Balſamo, in extreme poverty, from which he was relieved by Sir Edward Hales. That Baronet profeſſes, indeed, to recollect an *Italian* of that name; but as Mr. De Morande poſitively aſſures us the Count is a *Calabrois*, a *Neapolitan*, or a *Sicilian*, we can deſire no better argument to prove the fallacy of his information.

Another grand proof which he advances, to biaſs the opinion of his readers on this ſubject, is, the pretended reſemblance which exiſts between the ſignature of *Joſeph Balſamo* and *Joſeph Caglioſtro*: the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe is, however, the only perſon who pretends to diſcover this reſemblance;

blance; and it must be confessed, admitting his opinion just, the accidental similitude of a hand-writing does not afford sufficient grounds for the assertion.

Again; he would induce, or rather seduce, us to believe that the Count was, in the same year, under the above name, ignominiously expelled Paris; and that his lady was at the same time confined in la Pelagie.

Every one who is acquainted with the police of Paris must instantly perceive the falsehood of this charge. A vagabond is no sooner expelled that city than a minute description of his person is put into the hands of every officer of the police, and circulated indiscriminately throughout Paris, by which means all possibility of a clandestine return is cut off. If then, as the Editor would insinuate, Mr. Cagliostro had suffered this dis-

grace in the year 1772, with theſe precautions, it would not have been poſſible for him to have paſt ſix days at Paris in 1781, which was actually the caſe; to have frequented, during that time, the houſes of the principal merchants there, and have eſcaped the vigilance of the officers of the police.

But admitting this to be poſſible in 1785, when, with the Cardinal de Rohan, he was innocently involved in the affair of Madame de la Motte, his conduct then at leaſt muſt have undergone the minuteſt examination: when a circumſtance of this nature, if true, would certainly have been brought forward to public obſervation.

Again; had Madame Caglioſtro been confined in la Pelagie under the name of *Laurence Feliciani*, as Mr. De Morande would infer, *Felicinai* would certainly have been the laſt name ſhe would have adopted when interrogated

interrogated on that ſubject by the lieutenant general of the police. Nor will it be ſuppoſed that the Count would have employed that fund of cunning, of which we are taught to believe him maſter, to ſo little advantage as to have mentioned her by a name already inſcribed in red letters throughout Paris—a name which might probably recall to the remembrance of the police his former miſdemeanors. Yet in his Memoir, written five months before his trial, he has mentioned her by the name of Seraphina Feliciani.

In ſpeaking of this Memoir, I cannot forbear recalling to the remembrance of the reader the ſolemn appeal which the Count therein makes to many illuſtrious and diſtinguiſhed characters: an appeal, which being made during his confinement in the Baſtile, could only have been dictated by an innate

ſenſe of the moſt perfect rectitude of conduct. " Let them," ſays he, " declare whe-
" ther I have ever been guilty of an action
" diſgraceful to a man of honour: let them
" ſay whether I have at any time ſued for a
" favour, or courted the protection of thoſe
" ſovereigns who were deſirous of ſeeing me:
" let them declare whether I have at any
" time, or in any place, done more than
" cure the ſick gratis, and aſſiſt the indigent."

The world is, alas! but too ready to exult over the misfortunes of others. If the Count had been the impoſtor which Mr. De Morande aſſerts, or had been guilty of thoſe iniquitous practices of which he aſſures the public he can furniſh *inconteſtible proofs:* on an appeal like this, would not ſome one among thoſe who had been the dupe of his deception have ſtood forth to draw aſide the veil that concealed his impoſtures?

Would not the vigilance of the intriguing De la Motte, the jealous friends of the Cardinal de Rohan, have procured thoſe *inconteſtible proofs* of which the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe ſpeaks with ſuch confidence; yet their accuſations, unſupported by a ſhadow of truth, were rejected by the French miniſters; and the reputation of Mr. Caglioſtro, like gold proved in the furnace, became more pure by the ſeverity of the trial it had endured.

But, perhaps, we are to believe that the diſcovery of theſe enormous crimes, theſe unheard of impoſtures, which have eſcaped the penetration of higher powers, were reſerved for the microſcopic eye of the immaculate Editor of the Courier de l'Europe!

Is it likewiſe given to Mr. De Morande to penetrate the moſt ſecret thoughts of man?

Or, by what authority does he pretend to ſay that Mr. Caglioſtro never *diſtributed to the poor but with the view of obtaining vouchers for his liberality, or of tricking the rich out of their good opinion?*

If he can ſupport this aſſertion, by proving, as he pretends, that the Count has received preſents a *thouſand times more conſiderable than the ſums he has diſtributed*, why does he not refer to the individuals by whom he has been enriched? Why does he not publiſh their names and places of abode in his Courier de l'Europe? But Mr. De Morande is too politic an artiſt to expoſe his colouring to minute inveſtigation. His performances appear to moſt advantage when viewed afar off. General references and initial letters give play to the imagination of the reader, and are therefore beſt calculated for his purpoſe.

Mr.

Mr. De Morande objects to the evidence of the apothecary to whom the Count appeals for the quantity of medicines distributed at his expense to the poor of Strasburgh, because, he says, the nature of their profession obliges these gentlemen to accord with the persons by whom they are supported.

In this instance it is but just to pardon the suspicious incredulity of our Editor; we are but too apt to judge the motives of others by our own feelings: and Mr. De Morande, being conscious that a *golden key* will equally unlock his repositories of *abuse* or *panegyric*, readily conceives that a like instrument will be equally successful with others. However, it being evident from many of our Editor's paragraphs, that he has long since revived the system laid down in old times by the Vicar of Bray; he never holds an opinion so fast but he can relinquish it when it becomes an impediment to his in-

tereſt: being therefore at a loſs for a creditable witneſs, he has ſurmounted his ſcruples, and would willingly admit the evidence of an *apothecary* at Knightſbridge, though he ſtill finds it impoſſible to admit one from Straſburgh. Mr. Jackſon, we are informed, was applied to by the Count, on his arrival in England, for the purpoſe of vending his Egyptian pills, at the rate of thirty-ſix ſhillings a box, the contents of which did not amount to more than eight-pence. However, this gentleman's *conſcience*, as Launcelot ſays, "hanging about the neck of his heart," would not ſuffer him to engage in ſo groſs an impoſition.—Thus far the Courier de l'Europe. But as this anecdote has received additions and variations from the fertile pen of Mr. De Morande, I muſt entreat the reader to ſuſpend his judgment till I have reduced it to its primitive ſimplicity. Mr. Jackſon being recommended to the Count, by Mr. Swinton, as a proper perſon to ſupply him

him with drugs, and to aſſiſt him in the preparation of his medicines, the latter went one day to his ſhop, and having purchaſed thoſe drugs he had occaſion for, took them home, and adding to them other materials, known only to himſelf, compoſed a certain quantity of paſte, which he ſent back for Mr. Jackſon to make into pills. Mr. Jackſon having followed theſe directions, returned them to the Count, who ſaid to him with a ſmile, " You don't know, perhaps, that " theſe pills were ſold in Paris at thirty-ſix " ſhillings a box?" To this Mr. Jackſon replied, That if they were in ſuch repute at Paris, it was a pity the Engliſh people ſhould not be permitted to purchaſe them likewiſe. On this obſervation, the Count made Mr. Jackſon underſtand that he had not, nor did he ever intend to ſell them; that what he alluded to, were the *apothecaries* he employed; who, as he had been informed, had taken that advantage.

Mr. Jackſon not underſtanding any language but the Engliſh, and the Count finding the danger of truſting to an interpreter, whoſe leaſt error might prove of fatal conſequences to his patients, employed, in a ſhort time after, a perſon with whom he could converſe without the aid of one; which giving offence to Mr. Jackſon, broke off all further connexion between the Count and him.

On the above circumſtances Mr. De Morande has founded the aſſertion, that Mr. Caglioſtro applied to the above gentleman to vend his pills at thirty-ſix ſhillings per box, the falſehood of which was proved by Mr. Jackſon himſelf, who, in the preſence of his ſhopman, confeſſed that the Count had never applied to him for any ſuch purpoſe, and that he had not given Mr. De Morande authority for what he had aſſerted.

The

The ridiculous ſtory of the Count's being the ſon to one Cicho, a coachman at Naples, formerly in the ſervice of Mr. Chriſtiplu; of his being bred to the profeſſion of a hair-dreſſer, becoming valet de chambre, and afterwards a mountebank doctor, is of a nature too low and abſurd to merit any ſerious conſideration. But as theſe anecdotes, with many others equally exalted in their kind, derive their exiſtence from the fertile brain of Mr. Sachy, one of the principal pillars that ſupports our Editor's magazine of calumnies: it may not be improper to preſent the reader with a few traits of this gentleman's character.

During the reſidence of Mr. Caglioſtro at Straſburgh he was addreſſed by Sachy, who having pleaded the moſt extreme poverty, ſolicited to be taken into his ſervice. The Count touched with his apparent miſery, clothed him; and as he profeſſed having ſome

ſome little knowledge in *chirurgy* took him to aſſiſt him in the attendance of his patients. He had not purſued his new occupations more than eight days, when the Count was informed by an honeſt citizen of Straſburgh, that Sacky was a ſpy employed by the faculty to injure his reputation; for which purpoſe he had already extorted money from ſeveral of his patients, under the pretext that it was by the Count's order he did ſo.

Sacky at this moment entering the apartment, the citizen repeated his accuſations; and his confuſion evidently evincing his guilt, Mr. Caglioſtro inſtantly diſcharged him. Enraged at the miſcarriage of his ſchemes, he now threatened to aſſaſſinate the perſon who had revealed his duplicity; which coming to the ears of the Marquis de la Salle, commander at Straſburgh, to prevent any diſagreeable conſequences, he baniſhed him from the city.

A ſhort

A ſhort time after the Count received a letter, wherein Sacky demanded the payment of an hundred and fifty louis, for the eight days he had paſſed in his ſervice, declaring, that if he refuſed to comply with this requeſt, he would defame him in a libel. This epiſtle, however, being inſufficient to terrify the Count into compliance, Sacky, in conjunction with Mr. Rochebourn, a French advocate, who has with much difficulty ſaved himſelf from the gallies, to which he was condemned, compoſed the libel, which Mr. De Morande, in his Courier de l'Europe, dignifies with the title of Memoir.

In 1783—4, during the time the Count gave public audiences at Bourdeaux, Sacky again endeavoured to injure his reputation, by publiſhing the ſame libel there; for which the chiefs of the city were on the point of impriſoning him, had not this meaſure been generouſly

generouſly oppoſed by the Count. From this time the talents of Mr. Sacky ſeem to have remained inactive till the moment of Mr. Caglioſtro's impriſonment in the Baſtile, when, under the auſpices of Madame de la Motte's advocate, he publiſhed a new edition of his libel, which was ſuppreſſed by the parliament of Paris, as containing *injurious calumnies*.

" Exiled from France," ſays the Count, " and deſpoiled of my effects, my neceſſary " reclamations have procured me new ene- " nemies. Sachy, their worthy agent, has " followed me to England, and not content " with publiſhing a third edition of his libel, " has dared to make oath that I am indebted " to him an hundred and fifty guineas, for " which ſum he has actually arreſted me."

Such is the man who inherits the confidence of the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe.

The

The following letters, which were written by the French miniſters during the reſidence of the Count Caglioſtro at Straſburgh on account of ſeveral libels publiſhed againſt him in that city, will, I hope, effectually eradicate any unfavourable impreſſions they may have occaſioned in the breaſt of the reader:

LETTER I.

Written by Monſieur Le Compte De Vergennes, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to Monſieur Gerrard, Præter of Straſburgh.

Verſailles, 13th March, 1783.

COMPTE De Caglioſtro, Monſieur, is not perſonally known to me; but common report, ever ſince he ſettled at Straſburgh, is ſo very much in his favour, that humanity requires that he ſhould find there both regard and tranquillity. His being a ſtranger, and the good which he is ſaid to have done, is a double title which authoriſes

me

me to recommend him to you, and to the magiſtrates over whom you preſide. Monſieur Caglioſtro only aſks for peace and ſecurity: theſe are inſured to him by the laws of hoſpitality; and, acquainted as I am with your natural diſpoſition, I am fully perſuaded you will eagerly maintain him in the enjoyment of both, as well as all other advantages which he may perſonally deſerve.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) DE VERGENNES.

LETTER II.

From the Marquis De Mirominil, Keeper of the Seal, to the ſame.

Verſailles, March 15, 1783.

SIR,

THE Compte De Caglioſtro has zealouſly employed his time ſince he has ſettled in Straſburgh in relieving the poor and neceſſitous; and, to my knowledge, that

that foreigner has, in ſeveral inſtances, acted with that humanity which makes him worthy of a peculiar protection. I beg you will, as far as concerns you and the magiſtrates whoſe chief you are, procure him all that ſupport and tranquillity which every ſtranger o ght to enjoy within his majeſty's dominions; eſpecially when he makes himſelf uſeful to the nation.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MIROMINIL.

LETTER III.

From the Marquis De Segur to the Marquis De la Salle, Commander at Straſburgh.

THE good conduct which I am well aſſured Compte Caglioſtro has ſupported in Straſburgh; the very laudable employ he makes in that city of his knowledge and abilities; and the repeated proofs of his humanity

humanity there to the individuals labouring under various complaints, who had recourſe to him, entitle that foreigner to the protection of government. The king gives you charge to ſee not only that he be not moleſted at Straſburgh, whenever he thinks fit to return to that city, but even that he may be treated with that regard which he deſerves, for the good he does to the diſtreſſed.

(Signed) SEGUR.

I will not now detain my readers with a diſſertation on what Mr. De Morande calls "the affair of a London Necklace," but for the explanation refer them to the enſuing narrative, In which I will "*nothing extenuate*, "*nor ſet down aught in malice.*"

LIFE

LIFE, &c.

THE Count Caglioſtro informs us, in his celebrated Memoir, that he cannot ſpeak poſitively as to the place of his nativity, nor to the parents who gave him birth *.

* Some authors are of opinion that he is the offſpring of the grand maſter of Malta by a Turkiſh lady, made captive by a Malteſe galley. Others, that he is the only ſurviving ſon of that prince, who, about thirty-five years ago, ſwayed the precarious ſceptre of Trebiſond; at which period, a revolution taking place, the reigning prince was maſſacred by his ſeditious ſubjects; and his infant ſon, the Count Caglioſtro, conveyed by a truſty friend to Medina, where the cherif had the unprejudiced generoſity to have him educated in the faith of his Chriſtian parents.

He ſpent his early years at Medina in Arabia, under the auſpices of a governor, with whom he reſided in the palace of the mufti Salahaym.

Althotas, who diſcovered toward his pupil all the tender ſolicitude of parental affection, with joy perceived the early inclination he diſcovered to the ſciences; among which botany and phyſic were thoſe in which he particularly delighted. By his inſtructions he became acquainted with the Eaſtern languages, and by him was taught the duties we owe to God, to mankind, and to ourſelves.

Althotas informed him, that his parents were Chriſtians of diſtinguiſhed birth; and that he was left an orphan at the age of three months; but their names, and the place of his nativity, was a ſecret, over which he caſt an impenetrable veil.

It being the counſel of Althotas to reſpect every where religion and the laws, they conformed outwardly to the Mahometan mode of worſhip; " but," ſays the Count, " the true religion was imprinted on our " hearts." Mr. Caglioſtro informs us, that he was in the twelfth year of his age when the frequent diſcourſes of his governor on the antiquities of Egypt, &c. awakened in his breaſt a deſire of travelling ſo irreſiſtible, that the pleaſures of Medina and the amuſements of his youth were no longer objects of his attention: his imagination was continually anticipating that period, when Althotas informed him they were to enter on their travels. The long-wiſhed for hour at length arrived; and all things being prepared for their departure, they bid farewell to the mufti, and began their journey toward Mecca.

On their arrival at that city, the Count having changed the ſimple habit he had till then worn, for one more ſplendid, was, on the third day after his arrival, by Althotas, preſented to the cherif *. "At the "ſight of this prince," ſays the Count, "I experienced a ſudden emotion, which "it is not in the power of words to expreſs; "my eyes dropped the moſt delicious tears "I ever ſhed: and, while he honoured me "with the tendereſt careſſes, his I per-"ceived were likewiſe ſuffuſed."

At Mecca he reſided three years; during which time the attachment of the cherif toward him ſeemed hourly to encreaſe. He would at times gaze on him with the moſt fixed attention; then raiſing his eyes

* He is the ſovereign of Mecca, and is always choſen from among the deſcendants of Mahomet.

to heaven, his countenance would betray the moſt lively picture of pity and commiſeration.

This ambiguity of conduct naturally excited the curioſity of the Count; but he dared not to demand an explanation of his governor, who, on ſuch occaſions, never failed to rebuke him with the utmoſt ſeverity; "as if," ſays he, "it had been "a crime in me to wiſh for information "concerning my birth."

The Count's inclination for travel ſtill reigning predominant, he prepared to leave Mecca. The cherif ſaw him depart with a regret that indicated the tendereſt affection: he preſſed him to his boſom with more than uſual warmth; and concluded their laſt interview with this remarkable ſentence, "*Adieu, thou nature's unfortunate child.*"

Mr. Caglioſtro had now the ſatisfaction of viſiting Egypt; and by procuring the intimacy of the miniſters of the ſeveral temples of that ancient city, was admitted to places into which the foot of the common traveller had never before penetrated.

Having continued his travels, during three years, through the principal cities of Africa and Aſia, he arrived in the year 1766 at the iſland of Malta. It was here, for the firſt time, he aſſumed the European dreſs, and with it the title of Count De Caglioſtro, having till this period retained the name of Acharat. Nor was it without ſingular aſtoniſhment, that he perceived his governor adopt the clerical habit, and with it the inſignia of the order of Malta. The grand maſter, Pinto, preſented them with apartments in his palace, and treated the Count with the moſt ſtriking marks of diſtinction. He aſſured him of a very

rapid

rapid preferment, would he conform to their religious order; but his prevailing taſte for travel, and for phyſic, made him reſolve on a life of more active virtue. The Count informs us, that he has every reaſon to ſuſpect the grand maſter was no ſtranger to his birth, though he was ever averſe to entering on a ſubject ſo particularly intereſting to his young friend.

" It was in the iſland of Malta," ſays the Count, " that I had the misfortune " of loſing my beſt friend and maſter, the " venerable Althotas, the wiſeſt and moſt " learned of mankind!" This melancholy event deeply affected him; and, to divert his grief, he obtained permiſſion of the grand maſter to quit the iſland, and purſue his travels over Europe. Accompanied by the Chevalier D'Aquino of the noble houſe of Caramanica, he made the tour of Sicily; and, after being introduced

by his friend to the nobility of that country, they paſſed through the iſlands of the Archipelago; and, again croſſing the Mediterranean, arrived at Naples.

At this city, of which the Chevalier was a native, the Count parted with his companion, and proceeded unaccompanied to Rome, provided with a letter of credit on the banking houſe of Sieur Bellona. In the capital of the Chriſtian world he reſolved to remain *incognito*. Chance, however, in a ſhort time, diſcovered him to *Cardinal Urſina*, who, with the moſt flattering attention, introduced him to ſeveral Cardinals and Roman princes: among others, to Cardinal Ganganelli, who became afterwards Pope Clement the XIVth. He had likewiſe, he tells us, the honour of conferring repeatedly with Pope Rezzonica, who then filled the papal chair.

In 1770, the twenty-ſecond year of his age, he became acquainted with Seraphina Feliciani, a young lady, to whom he was ſoon after united, by the moſt indiſſoluble ties. Having travelled with his fair companion, during ſix years, into different parts of Europe; at the end of that time he turned his thoughts toward England, the favourite iſle of commerce and of liberty; and, in the month of July, 1776, for the firſt time, viſited London. — Poſſeſſed on his arrival, in plate, jewels, and ſpecie, to the amount of three thouſand pounds; he hired apartments in Whitcomb-Street, where he dedicated a large portion of his time to his favourite ſtudies, chymiſtry and phyſic.

It happened that at this time a poor Portugueſe occupied an apartment in the ſame houſe; her name was Blavary: ſhe was perfectly acquainted with the French

and

and Portugeuſe languages, and though reduced by fortune, her manners and converſation ſeemed to beſpeak her well born.

The compaſſion of the Count and his lady were eaſily awakened; ſtrangers themſelves in a country in which they knew neither the language nor the cuſtoms, they readily ſympathiſed with one whoſe ſituation appeared to be in a degree ſimilar: and, at the interceſſion of the woman of the houſe, the Portugueſe was admitted into the ſervice of Madame Caglioſtro as interpreter and companion.

Mr. Vitellini was ſoon after recommended to the Count in the former of theſe capacities: he was bred up among the Jeſuits; but, at their expulſion, being maſter of the Latin, French, and Italian, he came to London as profeſſor of languages. With a ſtrong propenſity to the gaming houſe and chymiſtry,

chymiſtry, on the knowledge of which laſt he particularly piqued himſelf, it will naturally be concluded that his finances were not in the moſt flouriſhing condition; they were, indeed, at the loweſt ebb, when he was relieved by the generoſity of the Count, who clothed and took him into his ſervice.

Vitellini carefully ingratiated himſelf with his patron; he was frequently witneſs to his experiments in chymiſtry; ſome of which, being entirely new to him, in the height of enthuſiaſm, "he had the *weakneſs*, and *in-* "*diſcretion*," ſays the Count, "to hold me "forth to his acquaintance, and in all public "places, as an extraordinary man, a true "adept, whoſe fortune was immenſe, and "who poſſeſſed the grand ſecret of tranſ- "muting metals," &c. This report was ſufficient to excite the curioſity of the public: Mr. Caglioſtro was in a very ſhort time

ſurrounded

ſurrounded by different ranks of people, whom an idle curioſity, or the hope of reaping advantage from that wealth or knowledge pourtrayed in ſuch lively colours by Vitellini, drew together. He now found himſelf expoſed to the inſults of men of whom he was entirely ignorant: among others, Pergolezzi, an Italian, enraged at being excluded from the ſociety of the ſuppoſed adept, with an aſſurance unparalleled, appriſed the Count, through Vitellini, that if he longer continued to refuſe him admittance, he would entirely blaſt his reputation, by circulating a report through London, that he was ignorant and neceſſitous, of obſcure birth, and had before reſided in England.

The reader will ſuppoſe that this formidable menace did not contribute to eraſe any unfavourable ideas the Count might previouſly have formed of its author: on the

the contrary, he was now leſs than ever deſirous of an interview; and in return, Pergolezzi gratified his revenge by inventing a ridiculous hiſtory at the expenſe of his adverſary. Madame Blavary, the Portugueſe, appeared to entertain the ſame opinion concerning the Count as Vitellini; ſhe was perſuaded he poſſeſſed the grand cymic art, and reſolved to exert her abilities in order to participate the fruits of it. To effect this, ſhe thought it expedient to obtain the aſſiſtance of one Scot, a man well known from the ambiguity of his character, and the pliability of his principles, which laſt he is ever ready to convert to the intereſt of the preſent moment.

This Proteus it was agreed ſhould perſonate a Scotch nobleman, whom Madame Blavary was at a convenient opportunity to introduce to the Count. But before the project was ripe for execution, ſhe was

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ſeized with a ſevere ſickneſs, in which ſhe again experienced the generoſity and humanity of her benefactors. By the Count and Madame Caglioſtro ſhe was provided with a commodious apartment at a ſmall diſtance from their abode, in which they daily viſited, and ſupplied her with every neceſſary comfort.

This conduct did not, however, make the leaſt impreſſion on the Portugeſe, or divert the treacherous deſign ſhe had formed. She diſpatched a meſſenger one day to inform the Count "that Lord Scot, "of whom ſhe had before ſpoken to "him, was arrived in town, and pro- "poſed to himſelf the honour of an intro- "duction that afternoon."

Little ſuſpecting the treachery of a woman on whom they were daily exerciſing acts of kindneſs, the Count and his Lady were

were eaſily made the dupes of this artifice; the pretended Lord Scot was at the appointed time received with that civility and reſpect due to his ſuppoſed rank. His appearance, indeed, did not altogether correſpond with his pretenſions: but his inſinuating addreſs, and the ſpecious apology he made for appearing in his travelling habit, quickly diſperſed any ideas which might ariſe to his diſadvantage on that account. In this viſit Lord Scot exerted his powers of pleaſing with ſuch ſucceſs that, from that time, he became a conſtant gueſt at the table of the Count.

A few days after his introduction, the Count happening to remark the loſs attendant on the exchange of foreign coins, mentioned ſome Portugueſe pieces for which he had received ſeven ſhillings leſs than their true value. Scot exclaimed that it was a groſs impoſition, and offered to procure

procure the exact worth from his banker; for which purpoſe the Count put into his poſſeſſion twelve pieces.

Two days elapſed, during which Lord Scot did not make his appearance: on the third he returned apparently much chagrined and agitated. The Count inquired into the cauſe of this alteration; to which Scot replied, that he had unfortunately loſt the Portugueſe coins through a hole in his pocket. Lamenting with many expreſſions of concern, that his ſituation was at preſent ſuch as put it entirely out of his power to replace them.

The inconſiſtency of this tale muſt certainly have awakened the ſuſpicion of any one leſs credulous, or more acquainted with the deceptions practiſed by ſharpers to impoſe on the unwary, than the Count. He however, not in the leaſt doubting the veracity

racity of my Lord, entreated him to think no more of an affair ſo trivial; and gave him an invitation to dine with him the next day. It is natûral to imagine the Portugueſe pièces equipped Scot in a manner more ſuitable to his aſſumed rank. He appeared in a ſplendid habit—his baggage was arrived—and he talked largely of introducing his lady, whom he hourly expected from Scotland. In a few days Lady Scot was accordingly preſented to Madame Caglioſtro.

The fabulous recital of her misfortunes, and the extreme poverty which appeared beneath the face of affected grandeur, excited the compaſſion of that lady. She ſupplied her with money, clothes, and every other neceſſary of which ſhe evidently ſtood in need.

The Count, likewiſe, not deterred by the affair of the Portugueſe pieces, had the generoſity to lend to her and Scot two hundred pounds on their ſimple note of hand.

The lottery was at this time on the point of commencing. The daily diſcourſes of Scot on that ſubject, who, like Vitellina, was addicted to all games of chance, brought to the remembrance of Mr. Caglioſtro a manuſcript which he had in his poſſeſſion. It contained many curious cabaliſtic operations, by the aid of which, among other ſecrets, the author ſet forth the poſſibility of calculating numbers for lotteries.

" I had ever," ſays Mr. Caglioſtro, " conſidered this as a vague and enthuſi-
" aſtic idea, but had long contracted the
" habit of ſuſpending my judgment on
" thoſe

" thoſe things I had not particularly made " the object of my ſpeculations."

He was reſolved, he tells us, to prove the truth or falſehood of this aſſertion; and by adhering to the rules propoſed in the manuſcript, for the 6th of November, predicted the No. 20. On this Scot riſked a trifle, and won: but by No. 25, which was calculated for the enſuing day, he gained upwards of a hundred guineas.

The numbers 55 and 57 were announced with equal ſucceſs for the 18th of the ſame month; the profits of which day were equally divided between Vitellini and the pretended Lady Scot.

" Judge of my aſtoniſhment," ſays the Count, " at perceiving the exactneſs of " thoſe calculations I had believed a mere " chimera!"

The poſſibility of ſuch calculations I muſt entirely ſubmit to the determination of the reader; but was this uncommon ſucceſs the effect of human ſkill or of entire chance? The Count, from a point of delicacy, thought proper to reſiſt the repeated ſolicitations of Scot, &c. by reſolutely refuſing to predict other numbers. Scot exerted every effort to ſtrengthen his intereſt with the Count. He preſented Madame Caglioſtro with the trimming of a cloak worth four or five guineas: in return for which, as he would not mortify him by a refuſal, the Count preſented him on the ſame day with a gold box value twenty-five guineas; and to free himſelf from farther importunity, ordered his ſervant to deny him both to Scot and Miſs Fry, which was the real name of his pretended lady.

The latter, however, in a few days gained admiſſion to Madame Caglioſtro. She

She informed her, in broken accents, accompanied with tears, that ſhe was for ever ruined: Scot, ſhe ſaid, to whom ſhe had the weakneſs to be attached, having decamped with the profits ariſing from the lottery, leaving her, with his three children, entirely deſtitute. This imaginary tale produced the intended conſequences. Madame Caglioſtro, touched with the pretended miſery of her ſituation, generouſly interceded with the Count in her behalf, who, at her requeſt, ſent her a guinea, and, for the enſuing day, the chance of number 8. Fluſhed with her former ſucceſs, ſhe now believed the calculations of her benefactor invariable, and having procured caſh on her effects, ſhe boldly riſked a conſiderable ſum on the above number: fate was again propitious, on the 7th of December the number 8 emerged from the wheel of fortune. This extraordinary chance, on which the Count did not riſk a ſingle

guinea, returned to Scot and Miſs Fry, whoſe difference was entirely fabulous, the full ſum of fifteen hundred guineas.

The lady, in the firſt moment of exultation, would have ſubmitted to Mr. Caglioſtro the entire diſpoſal of her new-acquired fortune: but, in the preſence of Vitellini, he refuſed to have any concern in it. "Keep it, my good woman," ſaid he, "it "is wholly your own. If you would follow "my advice, retire into the country with "your three children, and live on the intereſt "of it—If I have obliged you, the only re-"turn I deſire is, that you will never more "re-enter my doors." She then endeavoured to force on Madame Caglioſtro an ivory box, containing ſeveral bank notes, which was likewiſe rejected by that lady.

This golden ſhower did not, however, ſatisfy the avarice of Miſs Fry, who ſtill

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ſighed for more numbers. She had, on the commencement of the lottery, agreed to divide the loſſes and the gains of each day with Vitellini; but perceiving the ſucceſs that conſtantly awaited the calculated numbers, ſhe found means to rid herſelf of an unprofitable incumbrance, by diſſolving the partnerſhip.

It was to his reſentment, on this account, that ſhe attributed the decline of her intereſt with Mr. Caglioſtro: ſhe conſidered it neceſſary, therefore, to ſoften his diſpleaſure, and, by the moſt prevailing of all arguments, gold, ſo far ſucceeded in her endeavours, as entirely to bring him over to her intereſt *. She conſulted with him on the moſt effectual means

* She gave him twenty guineas; but ſoon repenting of her liberality, made a debt of it, and threw him into Newgate; from which priſon he was, after ſome months, liberated by the generoſity of the Count.

of procuring other calculated numbers from the Count; but Vitellini being at a loſs how to adviſe her in this buſineſs, ſhe began to think it the beſt expedient to enſure the good offices of Madame Caglioſtro, and the more firmly to engage that Lady in her cauſe, ſhe determined, if poſſible, to bind her by an obligation. The difficulty was in what manner to confer it, Madame Caglioſtro having refuſed the bank notes ſhe had lately offered. After ruminating on various ſchemes, ſhe went to a pawn-broker's, in Princes-Street, where ſhe purchaſed a diamond necklace, value ninety four pounds; and, having procured a ſmall gold box divided into two apertures, in one of them ſhe put the necklace, and in the other a medicinal ſnuff. Thus prepared, ſhe awaited the moment in which Madame Caglioſtro was alone; and having introduced herſelf, opened that part of the box which contained the ſnuff, and entreated her to take

take a pinch, alleging that it was extremely good for the eyes. The Counteſs praiſed the odour of the ſnuff; and Miſs Fry availed herſelf of this opportunity to entreat her acceptance of the box that contained it. For ſome time it was ſtrenuouſly refuſed; but at length overcome by repeated ſolicitations, and ignorant till the enſuing day of its more valuable contents, ſhe yielded to the entreaties of this artful woman.

In January, 1777, the Count changed his reſidence to apartments in Suffolk-Street. This circumſtance did not, however, retard Miſs Fry in the proſecution of her deſigns: ſhe was appriſed of his removal by Vitellini, and hired an apartment for herſelf in the ſame houſe. Here it was impoſſible to avoid her: ſhe pretended that her journey into the country was delayed from want of ready caſh, having, ſhe ſaid, ſecured her money in ſuch a manner,

as

as put it out of her power to withdraw the principal. She, therefore, entreated the Count to extricate her from this embarraſſment, by giving her numbers for the French lottery. In anſwer to this requeſt, Mr. Caglioſtro replied, that her ſucceſs had proceeded more from chance than calculation; but that was it effected by the one or the other, he was reſolved to have no further concern in any thing of that nature.

However, in conſideration of the preſent ſhe had impoſed on Madame Caglioſtro, and with the hopes of being entirely rid of her, he gave her, by the hands of that lady, fourteen Portugueſe pieces, value fifty pounds, and the next day inquired the time ſhe had fixed for her departure. She replied, that the caſh ſhe had received from the Counteſs was inſufficient to defray the expenſes of her journey; and that ſhe was then going into the city, with the

hopes

hopes of procuring the payment of four hundred pounds, a debt, ſhe ſaid, for ſome time due to her. At her return, which was not till the evening, ſhe informed Madame Caglioſtro, that ſhe had been diſappointed of the caſh ſhe expected, and with tears, requeſted her to engage the Count in giving her numbers for the French lottery.

This laſt effort, like the former, proving unſucceſsful, determined her on the execution of a long premeditated ſcheme; a ſcheme the moſt diabolic that ever entered into the heart of ingratitude!

The principal characters to be concerned in it were the pretended Lord Scot, Mr. Reynolds, an attorney, who, notwithſtanding his expertneſs in the pettifogging fineſſe of the low law, could not preſerve himſelf from an ignominious exhibition in the pillory.

lory. One Mitchell, of the ſame profeſſion, whoſe character being leſs notorious than the above, it was thought prudent Miſs Fry, to avoid ſuſpicion, ſhould nominate her attorney, and to this honourable group we may add Broad, the pretended ſervant of the lady.

Every thing being properly arranged, they procured an action at the ſuit of Miſs Fry, for one hundred and ninety pounds, againſt the Count Caglioſtro; which, on the evening of the 7th of February, was ſerved on him by a ſheriff's officer who then lived in Warwick Court, Holborn.

In the mean while Reynolds having impoſed on the Count, by ſaying he was the ſheriff of London, who had authority for what he did, accompanied by Scot and Broad,

Broad, entered an adjacent chamber, * and broke open a cloſet, where the credulous Vitellini had aſſured them the manuſcript by which the Count predicted the numbers, with a gold box containing a powder he made uſe of in the tranſmutation of metals, were depoſited. With this imaginary treaſure, they took poſſeſſion of ſeveral papers, among others the note of hand for the two hundred pounds the Count had lent to Scot and Miſs Fry. Mr. Caglioſtro was then conducted to the houſe of the ſheriff's officer, where he paſſed the night. The next day, being deſirous of regaining his liberty, he depoſited in the hands of the above jewels to the amount of three or four hundred pounds; but Saunders, after aſſuring him every thing would be ſafe in his poſſeſ-

* The connivance of Saunders, the ſheriff's officer, who arreſted him, at this impoſition, clearly demonſtrates that he likewiſe was concerned in the conſpiracy.

ſion,

ſion, deſired to have likewiſe the box and the necklace which Miſs Fry had preſented to Madame Caglioſtro: theſe being delivered to him, he ſuffered the Count to return to his own reſidence.

The calm which ſucceeded was but of ſhort continuance. Incredible as theſe tranſactions may appear in a country renowned for freedom, he was on the preceeding night apprehended by virtue of a warrant taken out againſt him by Miſs Fry; in which ſhe charged both him and Madame Caglioſtro with the *practice of witchcraft*. In this enlighted age, we ſhould have thought ourſelves authoriſed in ſuppoſing that a charge of this nature would have been treated with the contempt it merited. *Juſtice Miller* had, however, the *weakneſs*, or the *complaiſance*, on the ſimple affidavit of the lady, to grant a warrant for the apprehending the Count and Madame Caglioſtro on the above pre-

text. The conſtable, with the aſſiſtance of ſome guineas, was prevailed on to diſpenſe with their attendance till the juſtice ſhould require it the next day.

In the morning the Count received a viſit from Mr. Reynolds; he paid him high compliments on the knowledge he ſuppoſed him to poſſeſs; and by many arguments endeavoured to perſuade him to divulge to him and Scot the manner in which he made uſe of the manuſcript and the powder they had taken from him.

Scot, who during this converſation had concealed himſelf without the door, perceiving that the eloquence of Reynolds did not produce the deſired effect, ruſhed precipitately into the apartment, and, preſenting a piſtol to the breaſt of Mr. Caglioſtro, threatened to diſcharge it at that inſtant, unleſs he conſented to reveal the ſecrets they demanded.

demanded. Reynolds however condeſcended to interpoſe, and having diſarmed him, with great compoſure began to renew his former entreaties.

The Count replied that ſolicitations and threats were equally in vain, that the objects they had unjuſtly deprived him of, were totally uſeleſs to any one but himſelf; and that if they would diſcharge the action, and return the box and the manuſcript, he would think no more of the note of hand they had robbed him of, and would give up to them the effects depoſited in the hands of Saunders. Seeing there was no better alternative, they accepted this propoſition, and immediately repaired to the houſe of the ſheriff's officer, in order to appoint a meeting to conclude the affair, but Saunders perceiving there was no hopes of his ſharing the booty with them, and being unwilling to loſe ſight of a prize ſo conſiderable,

conſiderable, previouſly adviſed the Count not to compromiſe the matter, but to make oath, when, purſuant to the warrant, he ſhould appear before the juſtice, of the things they had robbed him of, by which their action muſt neceſſarily fall to the ground. The Count had experienced too much ill treatment not to profit by this ſeaſonable advice; he followed the directions of Saunders, by which means four warrants were immediately granted for the apprehending of Scot, Reynolds, Miſs Fry, and Broad. The lady was, however, the only one taken into cuſtody. She appeared before the Juſtice, accompanied by two counſellors, Mr. Low and Mr. Delamain, whoſe eloquence ſoon extricated her out of this diſagreeable predicament. For, notwithſtanding the bill of two hundred pounds was ſeen in her poſſeſſion, yet as ſhe did not perſonally enter the apartment at the time

of the robbery, there was not ſufficient proof to commit her.

In the months of February and March the Count was continually haraſſed with pretended actions, alternately at the requeſt of Scot and Miſs Fry, by whom they were fabricated, merely with the view of troubling his repoſe, and extorting money from him, as he was uſually conſtrained to free himſelf at the expenſe of ſome guineas.

Mr. Saunders, the ſheriff's officer, expreſſed great concern at theſe perſecutions; though the remedy he propoſed was not entirely diſintereſted: he adviſed the Count to take an apartment in his houſe, where *only*, he aſſured him, his perſon would be ſafe. However this propoſal might have been received by an Engliſhman, we muſt not be ſurpriſed if it operated differently on a foreigner unacquainted with the cuſ-

toms

toms and manners of the country. Saunders at that time kept a carriage, and appeared to the Count, in every reſpect, a man of property and character. Deſirous therefore of purchaſing tranquillity, he, without heſitation, conſented to his propoſal *.

During the reſidence of Mr. Caglioſtro in the houſe of this ſheriff's officer, he daily defrayed the expenſes of the diſtreſſed priſoners confined there, and frequently releaſed thoſe whoſe debts were of ſmall amount.

It was here he became acquainted with

* If we place confidence in the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe, we ſhall believe that Mr. Caglioſtro was, from *poverty*, conſtrained to take up his abode in the houſe of this ſheriff's officer; but the falſehood of the aſſertion is evidently proved by its abſurdity. Thoſe perſons at leaſt who have, at any period of their lives, unfortunately had connexions with people of the above deſcription, will readily agree, that it is not to them *poverty* muſt fly for a retreat.

Mr. Priddle, an attorney, equally known by the depravity of his heart, and the ſtrength of his abilities; he was introduced to the Count by Saunders, as a proper perſon to tranſact his buſineſs with regard to Miſs Fry, &c. And as Mr. Priddle vaunted his talents and probity with his uſual addreſs, the Count thought he could not do better than employ him.

At the end of ſix weeks Mr. Caglioſtro quitted his temporary abode; nor was it without ſenſible regret that Saunders ſaw himſelf deprived of ſo beneficial a lodger. But on the 24th of May he had the pleaſure of reconducting him to his houſe, Miſs Fry having on that day taken out a writ againſt him for two hundred pounds.

The Count, however, took the neceſſary precautions to regain his liberty, by providing

viding bail for his appearance; when he was permitted once more to return to his apartments.

On the 27th of June the cauſe wherein Miſs Fry was plaintiff, and Mr. Caglioſtro defendant, was to be tried in the court of King's Bench; but Lord Mansfield perceiving the intricacy and confuſion which encompaſſed the facts, propoſed to the counſel, Mr. Wallace for the Count, and Mr. Dunning for Miſs Fry, to have the affair decided by arbitration, and recommended Mr. Howarth for the arbitrator.

This being agreed to on the 4th of July, 1777, the parties, their lawyers and witneſſes, were to adjourn before him; but how great was the ſurprize and indignation of Mr. Caglioſtro, when Mr. Priddle, whom he had employed as his attorney, refuſed to appear with him before the arbitrator:

bitrator: ſolicitations were of no avail, and the Count, unacquainted as he was with the Engliſh language, and with the forms of judicature, was conſtrained to defend his cauſe through Vitellini, who, it is needleſs to remind the reader, was a foreigner likewiſe, and ſecretly attached to the intereſt of his adverſaries.

The firſt object that came under the inſpection of Mr. Howarth, was the writ of February the ſeventh, 1777, wherein Miſs Fry aſſerted, that the Count was indebted to her the ſum of one hundred and ninety pounds for money lent.

This demand was, however, ſet aſide by Mr. Howarth, as the deponent could not bring any ſatisfactory proof of its legality.

The warrant of the ninth of the ſame month, in which ſhe charged the Count

and

and Madame Caglioſtro with the *practice of witchcraft* *, was too ridiculous to require the ſerious attention of Mr. Howarth. The laſt writ againſt the Count, of the 24th of May, was for two hundred pounds, which Miſs Fry pretended to have paid for a quantity of ſequins purchaſed for his uſe. The entire falſehood of this atteſtation was rendered conſpicuous by the prevarication of the deponent and her witneſs.

Mr. Howarth demanded in what manner ſhe obtained the ſequins? Miſs Fry referred him to Broad, her witneſs; who replied, that "he bought them for her of a "merchant, whoſe name he could not re-"collect."

Mr. Howarth then ſaid, "there muſt

* As the Count had thrown in an appeal from this warrant into the court of King's Bench, it came under the inveſtigation of Mr. Howarth.

" have been a large quantity of ſequins to " have amounted to two hundred pounds; " and that he did not believe any mer- " chant could have in reſerve ſo great a " number."

Broad replied, that " it was not *one* " merchant who furniſhed him with the " whole, but that he believed he had been " with *four ſcore* to complete the number."

He was then deſired to declare the name, or place of abode, of any one of the four ſcore, but without effect.

Miſs Fry now endeavoured to diſentangle her evidence, by ſaying that " the four hun- " dred ſequins were brought to her by a " Jew, of whoſe name ſhe likewiſe was " ignorant."

This palpable contradiction of all that her

her witneſs had before advanced; the entire ſilence on the four hundred ſequins in the former writ; her oath before the juſtice of peace; and, above all, the abſurdity of her atteſtation, too clearly demonſtrated her perjury to be miſtaken by the arbitrator, who ſeverely reprimanded both her and her witneſs.

Confuted on theſe points, ſhe now laid claim to the necklace, and the gold box ſhe preſented to Madame Caglioſtro.

The Count being aſked by Mr. Howarth, What he had to ſay againſt this new pretenſion? replied that, "he was conſcious "he had a right to retain the two objects "in queſtion, not only becauſe Miſs Fry "had abſolutely given them to his Lady, "but becauſe ſhe was indebted to him for "money lent to their double and triple "value;" but added, "that he did not "wiſh

" wiſh to exert the power he conſidered " himſelf in this caſe veſted with, but was " ready to reſtore them, as he had former- " ly offered to do.

Mr. Howarth's final judgment on this cauſe was as follows: he decreed the neck-lace and the box to be returned to Miſs Fry, and condemned the Count to all expenſes of the ſuit, which were to be paid, and the box and necklace returned, on the 17th of November following.

" The injuſtice of this ſentence," ſays the Count, " rendered me unjuſt myſelf; " I attributed to the whole nation the " faults of a few individuals, and deter- " mined to leave a place in which I diſ- " covered neither laws, juſtice, nor hoſ- " pitality."

Was it not for the eſtabliſhed and unblemiſhed

blemiſhed reputation of the arbitrator, we muſt certainly agree with the Count, in conſidering the judgment awarded him a partial one; but when we remember that Mr. Caglioſtro, from the abſence of his attorney, was conſtrained to reſt a conſiderable part of his juſtification on Vitellini, whoſe imperfect accent, and uncouth delivery, was not calculated to repreſent advantageouſly, facts in themſelves highly romantic; and that falſehood, ſupported by the eloquence of a Dunning, too frequently conceals her natural deformity, we ſhall ceaſe to wonder at the decree of Mr. Howarth. Nor do I mean by this to reflect on the diſcernment of that gentleman; the higheſt human underſtanding is not always exempt from error!

A few days after the arbitration, Mr. Badioli, one of the Count's bail, called on him, and propoſed that they ſhould take

take an airing together, which being agreed to, they ſet out. In their way they alighted at a judge's chambers, where Mr. Badioli ſaid he had buſineſs to ſettle: they then again entered the coach, which in a ſhort time ſtopped before an edifice of which the Count was ignorant. However, his companion entering, he followed his example; when Mr. Badioli making a ſlight apology, deſired him to wait there a few minutes while he tranſacted ſome buſineſs not far from thence; ſaying which, he left him. Minutes and hours elapſed, but no Mr. Badioli appeared. The Count then endeavoured to return through the door at which they entered, but found himſelf repulſed, though he was ignorant of the cauſe. He remained till evening in the greateſt agitation of mind, roving from place to place, when he attracted the obſervation of a foreigner, who having heard his ſtory, and made the neceſſary inquiries,

informed him he was a priſoner in the King's Bench.

The reader will eaſily imagine the aſtoniſhment of Mr. Caglioſtro at this information, which was indeed but too true. Mr. Badioli repenting of the engagement he had entered into, had taken this method of ſurrendering the Count, in order to diſcharge himſelf and the other bail.

If the ſituation of Mr. Cagliſtro was diſtreſſing, what muſt not have been that of his lady? Two days had elapſed, nor had ſhe been able to obtain any information concerning him; on the third her anxiety was relieved by Mr. O'Reilly, who being accidentally introduced to the Count, at his requeſt, went immediately to inform her of what had happened. Nor did this gentleman's good offices reſt here; touched with the recital of the Count's perſecu-

tions,

tions, he reſolved to exert his efforts to procure his enlargement. But this could not be effected till his adverſaries conſented to accept of other bail, which they could refuſe, till the end of the vacation. Mr. O'Reilly, however, with the aſſiſtance of Mr. Sheridan, a young counſellor, ſurmounted this obſtacle, by expoſing to Lord Mansfield the villany of his perſecutors; who not only detained his perſon, but his property likewiſe, which ſtill remained in the hands of the ſheriff's officer. In conſequence of which, that great magiſtrate ſent an order to compel Miſs Fry's attorney to accept the bail offered.

The Count was preparing to leave the King's Bench, when Mr. Criſp, the under marſhal of that priſon, informed him, that one Aylett had lodged a detainer againſt him, by the name of Meliſa Caglioſtro, otherwiſe Joſeph Balſamo, for a debt of ten

ten pounds and upward. The Count, in the utmoſt ſurpriſe, declared he was entirely ignorant of the perſon at whoſe ſuit the detainer was lodged; and deſirous of regaining his liberty, offered to give * bail.

* Mr. Aylett pretends that this ſum was due to him from one Joſeph Balſamo, by whom he was employed in the year 1772 to recover a debt of a Dr. Benemore. Mr. Aylett ſays, he had not ſeen his client from that time till 1777, when, being one day in Weſtminſter Hall, he perceived a perſon whom he immediately recognized to be the ſaid Joſeph Balſamo: but inſtead of accoſting him, and making his demand, as every one will naturally expect, he ſays he was at infinite pains to find out the place of his abode; and at length, with much difficulty, learnt that the perſon he had ſeen was in the King's Bench priſon, at the ſuit of a Mrs. Fry; and that his name was *Caglioſtro*. Upon this information, without firſt obtaining an interview to make his demand, and aſcertain the identity of the man he arreſted, he lays a detainer againſt the Count, by adding the name of Joſeph Balſamo to that of Caglioſtro. The ambiguous manner in which this affair was conducted, cannot but awaken in the mind of the unprejudiced reader, a ſuſpicion that Aylett was kept by Miſs Fry and her party as a *coup de reſerve*, to bring forward when occaſion ſhould render it neceſſary; nor does the character of this attorney perſuade us to relinquiſh the idea; as the poet ſays,

"A loſt good name is ne'er regain'd."

Mr.

Mr. Criſp told him, that he could not accept bail without the conſent of Mr. Aylett; but at the ſame time ſaid, if he would depoſit in his hands thirty pounds to indemnify him, he would agree to his enlargement. The Count aſſented; but not having ſufficient caſh about him, deſired Mr. O'Reilly to open his trunk, which was packed for his departure, and deliver plate to that amount to Mr. Criſp, which he would redeem the next day.

Mr. O'Reilly complied, and the following is the exact copy of the acknowledgment given by the under marſhal on the receipt of it.

September 24, 1777.

" Received from Mr. Peter Reilly two " ſoup ladles, two candleſticks, two ſalt " cellars, two pepper caſtors, ſix forks, ſix " table-ſpoons, nine knife handles with

" blades

" blades, a pair of ſnuffers and ſtand, all " of ſilver, which are to remain with me " as a ſecurity to indemnify me in a cauſe " of action againſt Joſeph Caglioſtro, now " in my cuſtody at the ſuit of Aylett, " attorney at law; and I promiſe, that when " the ſaid action ſhall be diſcharged, or bail " put in and juſtified ſo as to diſcharge me, " or the marſhal of the King's Bench, from " any action, for eſcape or otherwiſe, from " the ſaid Aylett, on account of the ſaid " cauſe, then to deliver to Mr. Reilly, or " his order, or repreſentative, the ſaid arti- " cles ſo depoſited with me, on payment " of all fees. But in caſe the action is not " ſettled, or the marſhal ſhould be ſued for " an eſcape, then the ſaid articles may be " diſpoſed of by me.

" (Signed) CRISP."

The affair being ſettled, on the 24th of September, 1777, the Count left the King's

Bench after ſix weeks impriſonment. The following day he performed his promiſe, by conveying the thirty pounds to Mr. Criſp; who then ſaid that Aylett had been with him, and threatened to bring an action againſt the marſhal for liberating the priſoner; and had taken the plate out of his poſſeſſion. Aylett, on the other hand, denying the charge, it was impoſſible for the Count to aſcertain by which he was plundered.

At the end of the vacation the Count, who was now convinced there was a colluſion between Priddle, Saunders, and Miſs Fry, by the advice of counſel, moved the court for leave to nominate Mr. James his attorney in the room of Priddle, and likewiſe for the recovery of his property in the hands of Saunders. This requeſt was granted, and the jewels, &c. produced in court.

On

On the 17th of November, purſuant to the judgment of Mr. Howarth, the necklace and the box were returned to Miſs Fry; and Mr. James, now the Count's attorney, having taxed the bills of Priddle and Miſs Fry's lawyers, paid all coſts.

In vain did the friends of Mr. Caglioſtro perſuade him to commence an action againſt Aylett for perjury, another againſt the under marſhal of the King's Bench for ſwindling, and to puniſh, as they merited, Miſs Fry, Scot, Reynolds, and Broad.

Deaf to their intreaties, he abandoned all pretenſions of that nature; only empowering Mr. O'Reilly to recover, if poſible, his box and manuſcript: and having paid every demand, he left England, poſſeſſed of no more than fifty guineas and ſome jewels, of all he had brought with him on his arrival. The fifty guineas conducted

him to Bruſſels, where he awaited to reinſtate himſelf in caſh; after which he renewed his travels over Europe.

On the 19th of September, 1783, he arrived at Straſburgh; where his life appears to have been one continued ſcene of benevolence: to the ſick he adminiſtered relief; to the poor money; and to the priſoner freedom. "I appeal," ſays the Count in his Memorial, "to the principal "men; to the magiſtrates; to the public "at large: let them declare whether in all "my tranſactions a ſingle deed of mine "could be reprobated as contrary to the "laws, to morality, to religion. If ſince "my arrival in France I have offended "any one, let the injured ſpeak, and riſe "up in judgment againſt me."

Among thoſe to whom he was particularly known at Straſburgh, were the Marſhal de Contades, Marquis de la Salle,

Salle, Barons Fraxilande, Del'or, Vorminſter, and Diederick; alſo to the princeſs Chriſtiana.

He had almoſt loſt ſight of the affair at London, when he received a letter from Mr. O'Reilly, informing him that Reynolds was in cuſtody, and the proofs of his guilt being complete, if he was tried it muſt neceſſarily touch his life. Mr. O'Reilly offered him five hundred pounds, together with his liberty, if he would reſtore the box and manuſcript. But Scot, in whoſe poſſeſſion Reynolds affirmed they were, probably conceiving that a reſtitution of theſe objects would furniſh his oponents with unrefutable proofs of the robbery, refuſed, on any conſideration, to reſtore them. Mr. O'Reilly concluded with enquiring in what manner he would have the affair terminated? He replied, that he did not wiſh to retaliate his injuries by taking

the life of any man, nor to embroil himſelf in further diſputes.

In conſequence of this reply, Mr. O'Reilly dropped the proſecution, paid the expenſes, and liberated his priſoner.

Not long after his arrival he waited on the Cardinal de Rohan, who being attacked with an aſthma, expreſſed an earneſt deſire of conſulting him *.

He was likewiſe in the ſame year honoured with a viſit from that prelate, who came to requeſt that he would accompany him to the prince Soubeſe, who was ſeized with a mortification.

" * The Cardinal de Rohan is deſcended from one of " the firſt families in France. He is himſelf a prince of " the Roman empire; and, in the right of his biſhopric " of Straſburgh, grand almoner to his moſt Chriſtian " majeſty, and a cardinal. He poſſeſſes livings and " church preferments to the yearly amount of ſixty " thouſand pounds ſterling, beſides a large patrimony " of his own."

The Count, having left inſtructions with a ſurgeon, that his patients might not ſuffer in his abſence, yielded to the polite entreaties of the Cardinal, with whom he ſet out for Paris. On their arrival they received information that the prince Soubeſe was declared, by his phyſicians, to be out of danger. The Count, therefore, declined viſiting him, " being unwilling" ſays he, " to reap the glory of a cure " that could not be aſcribed to me."

He remained thirteen days at Paris; during which his whole time was occupied in attending the numerous invalids who daily ſolicited his advice. " I appeal," ſays he, " to thoſe who had occaſion to " apply to me; if there is found a ſingle " perſon who can, with truth, ſay I was " ever prevailed upon to accept of any " gratuity, either in money or preſents, I " conſent to be deemed unworthy of con-

" fidence." The Cardinal accompanied him back as far as Savern, where after many acknowledgments on his ſide, they parted.

The Count proceeded to Straſburgh, where he reſumed his uſual occupations: but, alas! human applauſe is not always the attendant on deeds of virtue. The good which he diffuſed to others, gave riſe to ſeveral libels, in which he was ſtyled the *Antichriſt, the wandering Jew, the man of fourteen hundred years old*, &c. Unable to endure treatment ſo unjuſt, he was on the point of leaving Straſburgh, when the miniſterial letters, inſerted in the preface to this work, cauſed him to relinquiſh his deſign. " It was on the " faith of thoſe letters," ſays the Count, " which methought ſo fully demonſtrated " the monarch's diſpoſition towards me, " that I fondly conſidered France as the laſt

" laſt ſtage of my travels: how could I then
" imagine that two years after it would be
" my fate to claim,—but alas! to claim in
" in vain for myſelf, and my unfortunate
" wife, thoſe ſacred rights of humanity ſo
" ſolemnly acknowledged, ſo nobly ex-
" preſſed, in his majeſty's name!"

The tranquillity which they procured him was, however, but tranſient: perſecuted by a ſet of men who viewed his ſucceſs with an invidious eye, he once more determined to leave Straſburgh; and, by ceaſing publicly to exerciſe his talents, no more to expoſe himſelf to the malevolence of envy. At this period he received a letter from the Chevalier D'Aquino, who accompanied him from Malta to Naples, informing him that he was ſeized with a dangerous ſickneſs. Mr. Caglioſtro inſtantly ſet out for Naples; but, notwithſtanding all the expedition the warmth of friendſhip

friendſhip could urge, " he arrived," he tells us, " only time enough to receive " the laſt farewell of his expiring friend."

At Naples he was received by the Spaniſh ambaſſador, and others, who had known him during his former abode in that city. But being importuned to reſume the practice of phyſic, to free himſelf, he reſolved to take a tour to England; with which intent he croſſed the ſouthern parts of France, and on the 8th of November, 1783, arrived at Bourdeaux.

The jurats and the inhabitants of this city having given him the moſt diſtinguiſhed reception, entreated him to devote his time and knowledge, as he had done at Straſburgh, to the relief of the ſick and infirm. The Count, whoſe reſentment time had moderated, was not proof againſt their ſolicitations. He began once more

more to give advice at home, and to diſtribute among the poor remedies and pecuniary ſupplies; till at length the concourſe of people who reſorted to him were ſo great, that the jurats granted him a military guard that his houſe might be kept in due order *. " It was at this city," ſays the Count in his defence, " that I had the " honour of being introduced to the " Marſhal de Mouchi, the Count de Fumel, " Viſcount du Hamel, and other perſons " of credit, who will, if required, bear teſ- " timony to the manner in which I con- " ducted myſelf during my ſtay at Bour- " deaux." In leſs than eleven months he

* To what a miſerable ſubterfuge is the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe reduced, when he aſcribes to *mere chance* thoſe repeated cures which every occurrence contributes ſo fully to demonſtrate! Can it be ſuppoſed that the jurats would have paid a diſtinction of this nature to an individual, whoſe ignorance muſt neceſſarily have rendered him dangerous to ſociety?

found

found himſelf again perſecuted as he had been at Straſburgh. He departed from Bourdeaux, and reached Lyons the latter end of October, 1784, where having ſtaid three months, he ſet out for Paris.

Though the affair of the Cardinal de Rohan, and the famous necklace, is generally known to the public, I muſt intrude on my readers, by giving a ſlight account of it in this place, in order to introduce, with more uniformity, that part of it which immediately relates to Mr. Caglioſtro.

The Counteſs de la Motte, though bred to the buſineſs of a mantua-maker, is proved to be a deſcendant, by the baſtard line, from Henry the IId of France. For ſome years ſhe ſubſiſted by her profeſſion, in which time ſhe formed a connexion with one la Motte, a private in the corps of Gendarms. Madame de la Motte was drawn

drawn from obſcurity by the Marchioneſs de Brainvilliers; and being a woman of quick parts, with no inconſiderable portion of ambition, ſhe aſpired with ſuch ſucceſs as to obtain, at length, a degree of favour with the Queen. A diamond necklace of immenſe value, was at this time offered to her Majeſty, who, on account of the exorbitance of the price, declined the purchaſe.

Madame de la Motte was preſent, and, from that moment, appears to have meditated the deſign of making herſelf miſtreſs of it, by defrauding the owners. This ſhe reſolved to effect by a deep laid ſcheme.

The Cardinal de Rohan had for ſome time abſented himſelf from Verſailles, on account of a coolneſs he obſerved in her Majeſty toward him; he had frequently imparted the chagrine he felt on the occaſion to Madame de la Motte, who now informed

formed him that a circumſtance had happened, by which he might reinſtate himſelf in the Queen's favour. The Cardinal eagerly inquired what it was? Her Majeſty, ſaid Madame de la Motte, has ſeen a diamond necklace, which ſhe has an inclination to purchaſe, but it not being at preſent convenient for her to pay for it—If that is all, interrupted the Cardinal, I will immediately pay the money. By ſo doing, replied Madame de la Motte, you will offend: her Majeſty will give a bill for the money, payable at a ſtated period. You need, therefore, only to tell the jewellers, whom I ſhall refer to you, that the bill will be honoured at the appointed time. To this the infatuated Cardinal willingly aſſented, and they parted.

In a few days Madame de la Motte told him, that ſhe had informed the Queen of what had paſſed between them, relative to the necklace, who was highly

pleaſed

pleaſed with the intereſt he took in the affair; and as a proof of her approbation, would meet him the enſuing evening in the gardens of Verſailles. Her Majeſty, ſaid Madame de la Motte, will have on a calaſh, and in her hand a flower, which ſhe will give to you as a token of her friendſhip.

The Cardinal highly elated with her Majeſty's condeſcenſion, was punctual at the place of appointment; where, as he imagined, he was met by the Queen: but in reality, by Mademoiſelle d'Oliva, whoſe perſon bore a ſtriking reſemblance of her Majeſty's. This reſemblance, being obſerved by Monſieur and Madame de la Motte, it occurred to them, that ſhe might prove an uſeful engine in the ſcheme they were negotiating. By an eaſy familiarity of manners peculiar to the French nation, they ſoon obtained an intimacy with her, and diſcovered, that though come of a good family,

family, her finances were reduced. This circumſtance was particularly favourable to their deſign: by the promiſe of 6000 livres they prevailed on her to impoſe on the Cardinal, by perſonating the Queen. But though Madame de la Motte inſtructed her in the manner ſhe was to conduct herſelf during the interview, ſhe carefully concealed from her the real motive of the deception. Mademoiſelle d'Oliva ſpoke a few words to the Cardinal in a low voice, and preſented him with a flower, as Madame de la Motte had before appriſed him: after which, he returned home perfectly ſatisfied with his long-wiſhed for reconciliation with *her Majeſty*.

Madame de la Motte went the next day to the owners of the brilliant necklace, and informed them that the Queen would purchaſe it, if they would take her bill for the payment: theſe terms were readily accepted

cepted by the jewellers, who aſked, When they ſhould have the honour of preſenting it to her Majeſty? "Oh," replied Madame de la Motte, "I will convey it to her myſelf. "You know my quality, and can have no "objection to truſting it to my care." The Jeweller replied, he rather wiſhed to have the honour of delivering it into her Majeſty's hands. "The Queen," ſaid Madame de la Motte "is deſirous of having the affair kept "ſecret from the King, therefore you muſt "not appear in it. However, I ſuppoſe you "can have no objection to deliver it, if "Prince Louis de Rohan indemnifies you?"

This entirely ſilenced the ſcruples of the Jeweller. He went immediately to the Cardinal, who acquieſced in all that Madame de la Motte had ſaid, and told them they might with great ſafety deliver it into the hands of that lady. A few days after this, the Cardinal received information that the Queen had fallen into a deep melancholy,

occaſioned by a prediction, that ſhe ſhould expire in child-birth.

Things were in this ſituation when the Count Caglioſtro arrived at Paris. The Cardinal honoured him with frequent viſits; in one of which he took occaſion to inform him of the laſt-mentioned circumſtance. "Madame Valois de la Motte," ſaid he, "a lady to whom I will introduce you, is "every day with her Majeſty. Should ſhe, "my dear Count, aſk your opinion concern-"ing this unlucky prediction, you cannot "oblige me more than by telling her the "Queen will be ſafely delivered of a prince; "it may poſſibly contribute to eraſe this "idea from her mind, and reſtore it to its "former tranquillity."

"To this propoſal," ſays the Count, "I "freely aſſented the more readily, becauſe "while I obliged the Cardinal I had the

"proſpect

" proſpect of contributing indirectly to the " Queen's health."

The next day the Count went to the houſe of the Cardinal, where Madame de la Motte awaited with the utmoſt impatience the arrival of the prophetic gueſt. She introduced the ſubject with much addreſs; and, having related to Mr. Caglioſtro the circumſtance of which he had been previouſly informed by the Cardinal, ſhe entreated him, if he could poſſibly diſcover the truth, to make her acquainted with it. The Count replied, that " all predictions were mere nonſenſe;" and adviſed her to tell her Majeſty to recommend herſelf to divine protection, and that ſhe need not be under any apprehenſions for her ſafety.

This anſwer did not ſatisfy the Counteſs, who ſtill perſiſted in having ſome more poſitive aſſurance.

Mr. Caglioſtro then called to mind the promiſe he had made to the prince; and, aſſuming all the gravity he was maſter of, "It is true Madame," ſaid he, "that, be-"ing a phyſician, I am an adept in the "ſcience of nature, nor am I without ſome "knowledge of the properties contained in "animal magnetiſm: but, before I can "reſolve what you require, a being *perfectly* "*innocent* muſt be procured, on whom the "effects will, in this caſe, operate more "powerfully."

"If that is all you require," ſaid Ma-"dame de la Motte, I have a niece exactly "anſwering that deſcription, and will bring "her with me to-morrow."

The Count, who had naturally figured to his idea this niece ſo *perfectly innocent* to be a child whoſe age did not exceed five or ſix years, had much difficulty to retain ſufficient gravity to carry on the farce

farce when Madame de la Motte, on the enſuing day, introduced to him, as the *innocent creature* of whom ſhe had ſpoken, a lady of fifteen years of age, apparently arrived at maturity. He compoſed his features as well as he was able, and aſked Mademoiſelle de la Tour, (which was her name) if ſhe was *truly* innocent? to which ſhe poſitively anſwered in the affirmative.

"Well Miſs," ſaid he, "I ſhall in an "inſtant diſcover the truth of what you "aſſert. Step behind that ſcreen; ſhut "your eyes, and think within yourſelf on "the object you deſire moſt to ſee; if you "are innocent it will appear to you; if "not, you will not ſee any thing."

"Mademoiſelle de la Tour," ſays the Count, "followed my directions, while "I remained on the outſide of the ſcreen "with the Cardinal, who ſtood near the

 "fire-place,

" fire-place, not *loſt in ecſtaſy*, as Madame " de la Motte has been pleaſed to expreſs " it, but by holding his hand before his " mouth, leſt by an indiſcreet laugh he " ſhould interrupt our myſterious cere- " monies."

During the time Mademoiſelle de la Tour remained behind the ſcreen Mr. Caglioſtro ſupported the farce by making ſeveral magnetizing geſtures: " Stamp on " the floor with your *innocent foot*," ſaid he, " and tell me if you ſee any thing." She replied in the negative. " Then Miſs," ſaid he, " you are not innocent." This obſervation piqued the lady's pride: " Hold!" cried ſhe, " methinks I ſee the queen." This was enough to convince the Count that proper inſtructions had been given to this *innocent creature* by an aunt, who profeſſed being ſo totally exempt from human frailty.

Deſirous

Deſirous of trying how ſhe would go through her part, Mr. Caglioſtro requeſted that Mademoiſelle de la Tour would deſcribe the phantom before her eyes; ſhe complied, by giving a minute deſcription of the Queen. "Aſk the lady," ſaid the Count, "whether ſhe will not be ſafely "delivered." She replied, that "ſhe "bowed her head, ſignifying that no ill "conſequences would enſue." "I com-"mand you," concluded Mr. Caglioſtro, "reſpectfully to kiſs the lady's hand: the "innocent creature," ſays he, "kiſſed her "own hand, and came forth, perfectly ſa-"tisfied with having convinced us of her "purity."

The two ladies having eaten ſome ſweet-meats, and drank lemonade, in about a quarter of an hour retired at a back ſtair. "Thus," ſays the Count, "ended a farce as "harmleſs in itſelf as it was laudable from its

" motive. How could I then foreſee that " this ſocial recreation would one day " be repreſented to the magiſtrates of " France as an act of witchcraft, a ſacri- " legious profanation of the Chriſtian " myſteries?"

The Cardinal de Rohan, having thus introduced the Count to Madame de la Motte, ſoon after inquired his opinion of her. Mr. Caglioſtro replied, that "he be- " lieved her to be a deceitful intriguing " woman." The Cardinal endeavoured to impreſs him with more favourable ideas, by aſſuring him that ſhe was a very honeſt creature, but in diſtreſſed circumſtances. On this the Count obſerved, that, if it was true that ſhe enjoyed the ſpecial patronage of the Queen, ſhe would, without doubt, be better provided for. Soon after this the Cardinal ſet out for Saverne, where he continued a month or ſix weeks. On his return

turn to Paris his viſits became more frequent to Mr. Caglioſtro, who perceived that he was thoughtful and chagrined. "But whenever," ſays he, "Madame de "la Motte was the ſubject of our con-"verſation, I would tell him, with my uſual "frankneſs, *that woman deceives you.*" At length the Cardinal one day ſaid to him, "Dear Count, I really begin to think you "are right in your conjectures with regard "to Madame de la Motte." He then, for the firſt time, related to him what had paſſed between them concerning the necklace; and imparted the apprehenſions he was under leſt it had not been delivered to the Queen.

The next day the Cardinal again ſaw Mr. Caglioſtro, and told him, in great agitation of mind, that Madame de la Motte with her huſband, dreading the conſequences of the affair he had diſcloſed to

him the preceding evening, had fled for protection to his houſe; and requeſted of the Count letters of recommendation for England, or the environs of the Rhine. The Cardinal deſired Mr. Caglioſtro's advice in the affair; who told him there was but one way left by which he could avoid being involved with them; and that was, by delivering Madame de la Motte into the hands of the police, and inſtantly laying the whole matter before the King and his Miniſters. The Cardinal replying, that a ſtep of this nature would do violence to his feelings — "In this caſe," ſaid the Count, "God is your only reſource: He "muſt, and I wiſh he may, do the reſt."

The affair having come to the knowledge of the King, he ſent immediately for Prince Louis, whoſe conſternation and chagrin deprived him of power to enter into a juſtification of his conduct. He was, therefore, on the

the 19th of Auguſt, conveyed to the Baſtile. On this ſeveral of the Count's acquaintances obſerved to him, that, being one of that prelates friends, he might poſſibly ſhare the ſame fate. To which he replied, that, being conſcious of his innocence, he was perfectly reſigned, and ſhould wait patiently for what God and the government ſhould ordain.

In a ſhort time he had occaſion to exert this fortitude; for, on the 23d of Auguſt, Commiſſary Cheſnon entered his houſe, and informed him that he had orders to take him before the Lieutenant of the police. But the number of the ſatellites that attended him induced the Count to ſuſpect that ſomething worſe was to follow. Every fear being awakened for one whoſe ſafety was more dear to him than his own, he took the Commiſſary aſide, and inquired whether his orders extended to Madame

Caglioſtro?

Caglioſtro? On this account he was made eaſy, by the Commiſſary's pledging his word of honour that they included no one but the Count himſelf.

The method taken to ſecure the property of thoſe who are taken up on the King's warrant is this: The Commiſſary, in the preſence of the priſoner, is bound to take an inventory of the money, plate, &c. and to affix the lawful ſeals. But, as the beſt laws are too frequently perverted by thoſe who are appointed to enforce and protect them, the effects of the Count Caglioſtro became a prey to thoſe wretches who were employed to eſcort him. They compelled him to open his ſcrutoires, which they plundered in his ſight, and afterwards dragged him in the moſt indignant manner along the Boulevard, denying him the ſmall indulgence of his own carriage, or even a hackney coach, till they came near

the

the place of their deſtination; they then ſuffered him to get into one, which conveyed him to that gloomy manſion of horrors — the Baſtile.

Commiſſary Cheſnon, who with the reſt of his ſatellites remained in the houſe awaiting the return of de Bruniers, the Exempt who eſcorted the Count, excluded every witneſs, who might impede his deſign, from the apartment of Madame Caglioſtro, herſelf only excepted, who was too much agitated to make any reſiſtance to his unlawful ravages. He then ordered the preſſes, cheſts of drawers, &c. to be opened; which having ſearched with impunity, he put the caſh and valuables into a band-box; and, tying it round with a ribbon, on one end of it placed his own ſeal, and forced Madame Caglioſtro to put a common head on the other. In vain did ſhe ſolicit to be permitted to uſe her own ſeal, which

which being better engraven, and more complexed, was conſequently not ſo eaſy to be counterfeited. The Commiſſary perſiſted in his reſolution; and "My wife," ſays the Count, "was conſtrained to put "on the bandbox, which is ſuppoſed to "contain the bulk of my fortune, a ſtamp "choſen by Maitre Cheſnon."

No lawful ſeals were affixed.—The keys remained in the bureau and drawers: the room door only was locked.

After this Madame Caglioſtro was forced into a coach, and carried to the Baſtile; to which place the bandbox, though by no means a regular proceeding, was conveyed likewiſe; and, with the keys of the apartments, delivered to the governor of the priſon.

The

The two following days Mr. Caglioſtro underwent a miniſterial examination; when the Lieutenant of the police propoſed that the box ſhould be opened in his preſence: but this was oppoſed by the governor of the Baſtile as unneceſſary.

The Count frequently interrogated his jailers concerning Madame Caglioſtro, Whether or not ſhe ſhared in his captivity? But, it being an invariable rule for the priſoner in the Baſtile to remain ignorant of every thing tranſacted abroad, they would ſolemnly affirm, that ſhe was not in confinement.

The Count, however, at length obtained permiſſion to write to her; but, in order to keep him ſtill in darkneſs, they deviſed the following ſcheme:

Madame Caglioſtro was permitted to receive his letters, only on condition that ſhe

ſhe ſhould anſwer them under the diction of one of the principal officers, always informing the Count that ſhe was at home unmoleſted, and taking ſuch ſteps as would, in a ſhort time, reſtore him to freedom. Madame Caglioſtro readily agreed to aſſiſt in a deception, that ſaved Mr. Caglioſtro the pain of knowing that her ſituation was equally melancholy with his now. "If," ſays the Count, "I wanted clothes or linen, I "diſpatched a line to my wife. An officer "would then go to my houſe, open the "the doors and drawers, in the preſence "of a neighbour, and return with the "things, bringing a letter calculated to "make me believe they were ſent by my "wife."

By this means they contrived to keep him in darkneſs till the month of February, when he was acquainted that Madame Caglioſtro had been brought to the Baſtile on the

the ſame day he entered it. He was likewiſe then permitted to ſee counſel, and informed that he was charged by Madame de la Motte with being an accomplice in defrauding the jewellers of the ſplendid necklace.

Mr. Caglioſtro, having learned the uſual method taken to ſecure the effects of thoſe priſoners confined on the king's warrant, expreſſed his ſuſpicions that they had not been attended to on his commitment; which ſuſpicions, though they at firſt appeared to his counſel groundleſs, were at length proved to be but too well founded.

The following is a copy of the account he ſent to his attorney of the caſh and papers contained in his bureau at the time Commiſſary Cheſnon entered his houſe.

In the upper part fifteen rouleaus ſealed with my arms; each of them containing fifty double louis d'ors.

Secondly, A money-bag containing one thouſand two hundred and thirty-three Roman and Venetian ſequins.

Thirdly, Twenty-four Spaniſh quadruples, in a rouleau, ſealed with my ſeal.

Fourthly, Two port folios, one red and one green: in the former are different certificates and other papers. The green one contains forty-ſeven bills on the Caiſſe D'Eſcompte of one thouſand livres each, and various papers written in Latin and foreign languages. In the ſame bureau are &c. &c.

Approved the writing, and certified the above inventory to be true and juſt.

(Signed) *Le Comte de Caglioſtro.*

When Mr. Caglioſtro related to his counſel the circumſtance of the bandbox, which

which had been produced but not opened, they inquired of Sieur Launay—Whether he had in his poſſeſſion the above articles? He anſwered, that the bandbox contained only two rouleaus, of twenty-five double louis d'ors each, and ſome jewels.

This raiſed the apprehenſions of the Count, who, on the twenty-ſeventh of February, preſented a petition to Parliament, requeſting that the remainder of his effects might be put under ſeal; but, through the interference of the Attorney-general, it was not reported to the Houſe.

The anxiety of mind, which Madame Caglioſtro had undergone for ſome months, at length threw her into a dangerous illneſs. This was a ſevere and unexpected ſtroke to the Count, who, on the occaſion, preſented another petition to parliament, praying her enlargement from a dungeon "Where,"

ſays he, " man himſelf has occaſion for all " his ſtrength, all his fortitude, all his " reſignation, to ſtruggle againſt deſpair."

This petition was more ſucceſsful than the former, by the interpoſition of M. d'Epremeſnil and others, who generouſly interceded with his Majeſty in her behalf. The recovery of Madame Caglioſtro was haſtened by her timely releaſe from the Baſtile, after five months impriſonment.

The Count had determined, on his acquittal, to have requeſted the preſence of Commiſſary Cheſnon, to aſcertain the non-appoſition of the ſeals, and to take an inventory of the effects that remained in his houſe; but this intention was fruſtrated by the previous releaſe of Madame Caglioſtro. She was alſo prevented from taking the above precaution, by the officious attention of the Governor of the Baſtile, who

ſent

ſent the keys early in the morning to her ſervants, that ſhe might find every thing prepared for her reception.

Her firſt care was to examine the Count's bureau, in which ſhe found only a few looſe papers, of no material conſequence, and ſome medicaments.

On the departure of Madame Caglioſtro from the Baſtile, Sieur Launay promiſed to return the contents of the bandbox in three days; but, his memory failing him, he was applied to repeatedly to fulfil his promiſe, but without ſucceſs.

The awful moment at length arrived when the parties accuſed were finally to appear before that tribunal renowned for the equity of its decrees. The evidence on each ſide being impartially weighed, and the guilt of Madame de la Motte fully

proved, ſhe was ſentenced to have her head ſhaved, to be publicly whipped, branded on the ſhoulders, and impriſoned for life*. Mademoiſelle D'Olivia, the innocent tool to her avarice, was cleared of any wilful concern in the fraud. Villette, who aſſiſted in impoſing on the jewellers, by ſigning *Maria Antoinette de France*, to the forged bill, was baniſhed † from Paris. —While the Cardinal de Rohan, and the Count Caglioſtro, cleared of every imputation of guilt, were honourably acquitted, to the joy of a feeling people,

* Mr. de la Motte has not yet been apprehended. After taking the brilliant necklace to pieces, he eſcaped with it to England; where, report ſays, he has ſold a part of the jewels.

† The French make a great diſtinction between *baniſhment* and *exile*; the latter they conſider not diſgraceful, it being the abſolute decree of arbitrary power. *Baniſhment* is, on the contrary, inflicted only on criminals.

who teſtified their ſatisfaction by the moſt joyful acclamations.

The next day Mr. Caglioſtro was met in the council-chamber by the Governor of the Baſtile and Commiſſary Cheſnon, who reproached him, not in the moſt civil terms, with the ſuſpicions he entertained concerning the ſafety of his effects. "As chance "would have it," ſays the Count, "I had "then a cane in my hand: I threw my-"ſelf involuntarily into an energetic poſ-"ture, that gave the Commiſſary to under-"ſtand that, although ſtill a priſoner, I "would not be inſulted with impunity: "the Governor ruſhed between us, and "each reſumed the tone that ſuited him "beſt."

Do you know this box again? ſaid the Commiſſary in a ſofter key, (pointing to one that ſtood on the table.) "No;" and the ribbon round it? "No." The ſeal? "Much

" leſs." Know then that it is your own. " What care I!" But this other ſeal is ſurely known to you? " No." Your lady ſet it herſelf! " It may be ſo." Are you acquainted with the contents of the box? " No." They conſiſt of your diamonds and money. " Perhaps." It alſo contains a regular inventory of your effects. " I " wiſh it may." You cannot but believe. " When I ſee it." Upon the truth we pledge our honour. " It is ſaying much." Will you have it opened? " Juſt as you " pleaſe." — The Governor then cut the ribbon and opened the box; but no inventory was there. They both looked aſtoniſhed: eſpecially Sieur Launay, who ſaid it was incredible—that he would give half his fortune ſuch a thing had not happened.

" Thus," ſays the Count, " did I ac- " quire the ſad conviction that the port- " folio

" folio and the hundred thouſand livres, or " thereabouts, which were in my bureau, " had been purloined; either through the " fault of the Commiſſary, who had not " ſet the ſeals, nor taken an inventory of " the caſh, bills, and other valuables he " had ſeized, or by the careleſſneſs of the " Governor, who had not kept a good " watch upon the box he had in his " cuſtody."

Mr. Caglioſtro informed the Governor and the Commiſſary that he was ready to receive the contents of the box, provided they did not require a full diſcharge, but only a partial one, ſpecifying the effects they returned: this condition they did not think proper to refuſe.

On the firſt of June the Count was reſtored to his liberty, after nine months captivity in a place of which we may form

an

an idea from the following expreſſion: "Were I," ſays he, "left to chuſe be-"tween an ignominious death and ſix "months impriſonment in the Baſtile, I "would without heſitation ſay—Lead me "on to the ſcaffold."

It is difficult to deſcribe the ſurpriſe of Mr. Caglioſtro when, on leaving the Baſtile, he found himſelf ſaluted by the plaudits of eight or ten thouſand people. "My "doors," ſays he, "have been forced open; "the yard, ſtaircaſe, apartments—every "place is full; I am carried into the very "arms of my wife."——

But, however flattering theſe teſtimonies of public approbation might be to Mr. Caglioſtro, it is certain they were not equally pleaſing to the Governors of the police, who probably conſidered them an infringement on the good order and regularity

gularity of the city, if we may judge from the event that followed; which I will preſent to my readers, as related by the Count in his Memorial:

"Not above twelve hours," ſays he, "had elapſed ſince my releaſe from the "Baſtile: my mind, long oppreſſed with "thoughts as gloomy as the tower of my "captivity, was hardly capable of enjoy-"ing the enchanting ſpectacle before me. "It was no longer that frightful ſolitude, "that deadly ſilence, ſeldom interrupted "but by the horrid ſounds of keys and "bolts: a ſnug apartment, which, in com-"pariſon, appeared to me magnificent, con-"tained all I held dear and neareſt to my "heart—my wife and friends. They "gazed upon me, and embraced each "other: alternately preſſed to their bo-"ſoms, I exchanged with them the moſt "endearing careſſes. Tears of joy be-

"dewed

" dewed our cheeks — our hearts were at
" eaſe — when lo! a ſtranger appears.
" Without farther introduction he boldly
" ruſhes into the room. — His looks are
" ominous. — He ' *grinn'd horrible a*
" *ghaſtly ſmile.*' I knew him to be that
" ſame des Brunieres, who had headed
" the expediton of the twenty-third of
" Auguſt." ' *In the King's name,*' (ſaid
" he) — Every heart ſhrunk at the tre-
" mendous ſound. He then produced a
" paper, which I received and read. I
" could ſcarcely believe my own eyes:
" I peruſed it once more. It was an or-
" der for me to quit Paris in twenty-four
" hours, and the kingdom within three
" weeks; forbidding me ever to reviſit it
" at any time, or on any pretence whatever,
" on pain of diſobedience." — " I ſhall not,"
continues the Count, " attempt to deſcribe
" the effect ſo dire, ſo unlooked-for, an
" event produced on the public at large.

" But,

" But, if I am permitted to judge of the " French nation from the crowds that met " me on the road, I may venture to ſay " that my private misfortune bore all the " ſymptoms of a general calamity."

The Count left Paris on the third of June, and retired to Paſſy, a ſmall village near Paris, where he remained nine or ten days, to ſettle his affairs, as he meant to ſue Commiſſary Cheſnon and the Sieur Launay for that part of his property which was miſſing. He was informed by his counſel that he could commence an action againſt them in the criminal court; but the court of Common Pleas being leſs ſevere, he entered his proceſs there. Among the numerous friends who reſorted to him during his ſtay at Paſſy were many who aſſumed the title only; by whoſe advice he was perſuaded to preſent a requeſt to Parliament, wherein he complained of the perſons

perſons by whom he had been accuſed, and introduced ſeveral of the Miniſters of State not in the moſt advantageous light.

This requeſt did him the greateſt injury with the Government. Spies were immediately placed about him: among others was Mr. de Vine, who was treated by the Count as a confidential friend. Mr. Caglioſtro having reſolved to make England the place of his reſidence, Mr. de Vine, by letter, transferred his truſt to Mr. Thomas Swinton, whom he recommended to the Count as a proper perſon to negotiate his affairs on his arrival.

This gentleman was formerly a proprietor of the Courier de l'Europe, and ſtill receives an emolument from it. He was many years well known as a wine-merchant, but at preſent keeps a nurſery of foreign plants, in Slone-Street, Knightſbridge.

Mr.

Mr. de Vine accompanied the Count as far as Bologne, where he left him and Madame Caglioſtro to purſue their journey to England. On the arrival, agreeable to the advice of Mr. de Vine, the Count went immediately to Mr. Swinton, who hired lodgings for him; and, ſome time after, a houſe adjoining to his own. Mr. Swinton, who had heard of the Count's repute during his reſidence at Straſburgh, now thought his fortune made. His plan was, to commence apothecary, and to vend the medicines preſcribed by Mr. Caglioſtro. He began by earneſtly ſoliciting him to give public audiences, as he had done at Straſburgh and Bourdeaux. The Count readily aſſented; and accordingly adminiſtered his advice, and diſtributed medicines *gratis*, to all who applied to him. But when Mr. Swinton propoſed opening a druggiſt's ſhop, he declined the propoſition, juſtly fearing the world might ſuſpect he had part of the emoluments.

emoluments. Not long after his arrival in England one of his pretended friends ſent him an inflammatory letter, reflecting on the firſt Miniſter of State, the Queen, and the laws exiſting in France; requeſting him to put his name to it, and get it publiſhed in England. The Count, irritated perhaps by nine months unmerited impriſonment, and by an exile equally unjuſt, imprudently complied with this requeſt, and circulated the above letter * through London, notwithſtanding the perſuaſions of Mr. O'Reilly to the contrary, with whom he had renewed his former intimacy.

On the twentieth of Auguſt, 1786, M. d'Arragon, Secretary to the French Ambaſ-

* This was freſh matter for the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe to proceed upon, who did not ſuffer ſo favourable a circumſtance to paſs unnoticed.

ſador,

ſador, waited on the Count to inform him that his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty gave him permiſſion to return to his dominions at pleaſure. The Count inquired, Whether Mr. Barthelemy had received thoſe orders from his Majeſty? The ſecretary replied that, if he would take the trouble of going to the Hôtel de France between the hours of eleven and twelve the next day, the Ambaſſador would give him all the ſatisfaction he required.

M. Bergeret de Frouville, and Lord George Gordon, who had about this time been introduced to the Count by Mr. Swinton, happened to be with him when M. d'Arrogan arrived. On being made acquainted with the purport of his viſit, they obſerved to the Count, that, as it was poſſible there might be treachery in the affair, he could not with prudence go to the Ambaſſador alone. Mr. Caglioſtro acquieſcing

in this opinion, Lord George Gordon and M. de Frouville offered their ſervices to accompany him the next day. The Ambaſſador, ſurpriſed at the intruſion of two ſtrangers, requeſted their abſence while he delivered his buſineſs to the Count Caglioſtro: but Lord George Gordon, prompt no doubt by zeal for a foreigner under the protection of Engliſh laws, abſolutely inſiſted on being preſent during their interview.

Mr. Barthelemy informed the Count, that he had orders to give him permiſſion to return to France; and produced a letter from the Baron Breteuil in which they were contained. Mr. Caglioſtro expreſſed his aſtoniſhment that a ſimple letter of the Baron Breteuil ſhould be able to revoke the *lettre de cachét*, by which he had been exiled. On this Mr. Barthelemy ſaid he had executed his orders, and could not

enter

enter into any farther detail. The Count then desired he would let him have the Baron's letter, or at least a copy of it: both which were refused. "There was cer-
"tainly," says Mr. Cagliostro, "nothing
"unreasonable in what I said to Mr. Bar-
"thelemy; I could not with prudence re-
"turn to France, without having in my pos-
"session a *lettre de cachét* revocative of the
"first. How could I have answered the
"Governor of Bologne, or of Calais, when
"they had demanded by what authority I
"landed at France, after the prohibition of
"not re-entering it on pain of disobe-
"dience? Would they not have performed
"their duty in forcing me to re-embark,
"or in making me their prisoner, till M.
"le Baron de Breteuil should confirm the
"news upon the faith of which I had
"quitted England?"

The Count acknowledges that Mr. Barthelemy, though he did not appear ſatisfied with the intruſion of Lord George Gordon, conducted himſelf with great propriety. But Lord George, not thinking himſelf treated with that reſpect he conceived due to his rank, the next day publiſhed in the Gazetteer a letter reflecting on the Ambaſſador, the Queen of France, &c. In conſequence of which the Court of France commenced the proceſs againſt him which has occaſioned his late departure from England. Every ſincere well-wiſher to the Count muſt lament his intimacy with a nobleman whoſe illfated enthuſiaſm has juſtly rendered him an object of univerſal cenſure. The friendſhip of Lord George Gordon, though probably well meant, eſſentially injured Mr. Caglioſtro in the opinion of both nations. So true it is, that our character is in general ſtamped from thoſe with whom we aſſociate.

About

About a month after the Count's interview with Mr. Barthelemy the latter waited on him with a *lettre de cachét*, in due form, confirming his Majeſty's former recall, but with this difference, that it permitted him to remain in France *no longer than the judgment of his proceſs againſt Sieur Launay amd Commiſſary Cheſnon.*

Mr. Caglioſtro did not avail himſelf of this permiſſion. " It is natural,' ſays he, " for the man who has, without cauſe, been " nine months immured in the Baſtile, and " on his diſcharge received for damages *a* " *letter of exile*, to ſtartle at ſhadows, and " to perceive a ſnare in every thing that " ſurrounds him. The intentions of his " Majeſty are undoubtedly juſt; but " the conditions expreſſed in the *lettre* " *de cachét* are ſufficient to alarm me. " My proceſs judged — my letter of recall " are no longer a protection to my perſon,

" which the next hour becomes liable to " an arreſt."

Mr. O'Reilly, to whoſe good offices the Count had been ſo particularly indebted in the year 1777, was now frequently with him, to the great diſſatisfaction of Mr. Swinton, who, with the utmoſt aſſiduity, endeavoured to preclude all approaches that might enable the Count to diſcover the duplicity of his conduct. To break off this connexion, and deſtroy that confidence Mr. Caglioſtro placed in his friend, he repreſented to him that Mr. O'Reilly's affairs being embarraſſed, it was probable he had paid his own debts with the money he had received from the Count to furniſh his houſe; and that the bills might be brought to him for payment. This inſinuation produced a coolneſs on the part of the Count towards Mr. O'Reilly, which the latter reſenting, withdrew himſelf from Slone-

Street,

Street, and for a time retired into the country.

Mr. Swinton, having ſucceeded thus far in his deſign, redoubled his aſſiduity toward the Count, and renewed his former propoſals of opening a druggiſt's ſhop, and becoming his apothecary; but, perceiving he was totally averſe to the ſcheme, he ſent a note to him by his daughter to this purport;

"That, having a numerous family, it "was neceſſary they ſhould eat: that he "was ſenſible through the Count's means "many perſons had been enriched: and "that, if he would put *him* in the way of "getting money alſo, he (Mr. Swinton) "would be his friend, and the Courier de "l'Europe his panegyriſt; if not ——

This billet, far from accompliſhing the ends for which it was deſigned, ſo much diſguſted the Count as to break off all correſpondence between him and its author.

Mr. Swinton, not content with injuring Mr. O'Reilly in the opinion of his friend, took the advantage of his abſence to circulate a report that he had abſconded with ſeven hundred pounds of the Count's money. This coming to the ears of Mr. O'Reilly, he went immediately to inquire of Mr. Caglioſtro—Whether or not he had given authority for ſo infamous a calumny? He diſclaimed all knowledge of it; and aſcribed his former coolneſs toward a friend, of whoſe fidelity he had repeated proofs, to the inſinuations of Swinton and Mr. de Frouville. Among the numerous impoſitions practiſed on the Count, there is not one more deſerves obſervation than the following:

Soon

Soon after his arrival in England he was applied to by Mr. James, of Serjeant's Inn, the attorney he had formerly employed: he informed him that, on looking over his accounts of the year 1777, he had diſcovered a miſtake, by which the Count was ſtill indebted to him ten pounds. It certainly appears ſtrange that Mr. James ſhould ſuffer nine years to elapſe and not have made this demand on Mr. O'Reilly, whom the Count had empowered by letter of attorney to tranſact any buſineſs relative to him in his abſence. Mr. Caglioſtro, however, relying on the honour of Mr. James, generouſly paid his demand. This tranſaction coming to the knowledge of Mr. Priddle, whom the Count had employed previous to his engagement with Mr. James, it probably encouraged him to make a demand equally illegal.

Accordingly,

Accordingly, without delivering a bill, as is uſual on ſuch occaſions, he took out a writ againſt Mr. Caglioſtro for ſixty pounds, due, as he pretended, for buſineſs tranſacted in the year 1777. The Count immediately acquainted Mr. James with this demand, who aſſured him that the action would not ſtand good. Mr. James had, on ſettling the Count's affairs in the year 1777, three times ſummoned Mr. Priddle to produce his bill, that it might be taxed before the Maſter of the King's Bench Office; but he not appearing to give in any, and having received of the Count different ſums to the amount of eighty pounds, which was declared by the Maſter and Mr. James to be more than the buſineſs done could poſſibly come to, it was determined that he could have no further claim: for proof of which, Mr. James made an affidavit of his attendance during the times required

by

by law, and of Priddle's non-appearance. In conſequence of this, Mr. Jackſon, the attorney employed by the Count's bail to defend the action, applied to Mr. James for the affidavit and other papers relative to the affair: but Mr. James, probably offended at not being himſelf employed in the buſineſs, refuſed to deliver them up or to lend any aſſiſtance. Upon this Mr. O'Reilly, by whom he had been recommended to the Count, went to him to demand an explanation of his conduct. He then ſaid that when he ſhould be paid the intereſt of the ten pounds, (for which he was in fact ſolely indebted to the generoſity of the Count,) he would deliver up the affidavit, &c. Mr. Caglioſtro, wearied out with repeated impoſitions, refuſed to comply with this unreaſonable requeſt. The Court was therefore moved for Priddle to ſhew cauſe how his demand was incurred; and his bill referred to the Maſter: but Mr. James

refuſing

refuſing to apear againſt Priddle, or to deliver up the proofs of the illegality of his demand, the Maſter was obliged to allow his claim; and the Count, inſtead of the former demand of ſixty now paid an hundred and eighty pounds, including the coſts and charges of the two attornies; one hundred of which was paid to Mr. Priddle a few days before his commitment to Newgate, in conſequence of his late ſentence.

Immediately after this, Mr. Cauld Sacky, having been informed that ſwearing to a debt was, in England, ſufficient to receive it, arrived in London with the view of profiting by this knowledge: being provided with an interpreter by the Count's good friend Mr. De Morand, he proceeded to the King's Bench Office, where he made oath that Joſeph Caglioſtro owed this deponent an hundred and fifty pounds for

work,

work, *labour*, *diligence*, and *attendance on his patients at Straſburgh*. Sacky, as I have mentioned in the preface, being taken into the Count's ſervice ſolely from a motive of charity, and remaining with him only eight days, could not poſſibly have any legal demand on him; nevertheleſs he was obliged to give bail to the action.

I cannot depart from this ſubject without obſerving the very honourable part Mr. Swinton took in this affair. He ſuffered the bailiffs to remain in ambuſcade in his houſe, for the greater convenience of ſeizing Mr. Caglioſtro's perſon. It is now time to proceed to the circumſtance that made the Count finally reſolve to leave England. Mr. de Vine, whom I have before mentioned as employed by the French Court to obſerve and give an account of his minuteſt action, in a few months followed him to England: he was received by the unſuſ-

picious

picious Count with all the generous warmth of diſintereſted friendſhip, hoſpitably entertained, and lodged in his houſe.

Mr. de Vine being now the inſeparable companion of the Count took every opportunity of ſpeaking diſreſpectfully of the Queen of France, and other diſtinguiſhed characters of that kingdom, in order to make himſelf maſter of his ſentiments. This ſnare was too well laid for Mr. Caglioſtro to eſcape, who readily fell into it, notwithſtanding he was ſenſible that Mr. de Vine was the brother of a lady employed in the Queen's houſehold; a circumſtance which ought certainly to have put him on his guard. He continued, however, to utter his ſentiments with his uſual frankneſs, till he received a letter cautioning him to beware of de Vine, whoſe deſign, it acquainted him, was to trepan him into France. Though unwilling to give credit

to

to this information, which ſo highly aſperſed the character of a man in whoſe favour he was ſtrongly prepoſſeſſed, the Count reſolved to be more circumſpect in his conduct toward him, till he had diſcovered the truth or falſehood of the charge.

About this time he received invitations from ſeveral of his friends to paſs ſome time in Switzerland. In order to diſcover the intentions of de Vine, he ſhewed him the letters; and, telling him he intended to accept the invitations they contained, aſked him what rout he would adviſe him to take? "Through France, without "doubt," replied de Vine; "it is much "the ſhorteſt and the beſt way." "But," ſaid the Count, "do you think I can "with ſafety venture through France?" "Oh!" returned the other, "I am confi-"dent of it; I will accompany you, and "am certain we may paſs together "unnoticed."

This

This propoſal was enough to convince the Count that he had foſtered a ſerpent that was preparing to ſting him to the heart. He upbraided de Vine with the baſeneſs of his deſigns; and, declaring that he would not ſlee p another night under the ſame roof with ſuch a traitor, left his houſe and went to that of Mr. de Loutherburg of Hamerſmith, where he remained in ſecret till he departed from England.

Mr. de Vine, finding all hopes of ſucceſs in his enterpriſe now at an end, with every mark of chagrin and diſappointment ſoon after ſet off for Bologne. But, before his departure, the following minute inventory of the jewels Mr. Caglioſtro brought with him on his arrival in England, (the copy of which was alone in the poſſeſſion of de Vine,) appeared in the Courier de l'Europe, and furniſhed the Editor with an opportunity of acquainting his readers, that the man who left England poſſeſſed of theſe valuables

valuables could ſuffer a wife to remain deſtitute of every neceſſary but thoſe ſhe received from the benign hand of charity.

THE INVENTORY.

A gold repeater enamelled in blue, with ſtars of gold, and enriched by two circlets of diamonds. Its chain three rows of ſmall diamonds terminated by three large ones, and four brilliant pendants; from two of which hang a cluſter of diamonds, from the third a key ſet with diamonds, and from the fourth a ſeal mounted in the ſame—The ſaid watch in a ſealſkin * caſe.

A ſmall

* On this watch, the chain of which was valued at one thouſand five hundred pounds, the Count employed Mr. Swinton to procure him five hundred pounds till he received remittances. Mr. Swinton complied, and obtained the ſum required of a pawnbroker in Prince's-Street, on his agreeing to take a hundred pounds worth of plate and plated goods.

This is a circumſtance which Mr. De Morande

A ſmall green ſealſkin caſe, containing ſix rings; the firſt conſiſting of five diamonds, ſurrounded with ſmaller;

The ſecond of two, mounted in the form of a heart, and encircled likewiſe with diamonds;

The third repreſents a garter and buckle, in ſmall diamonds—[Theſe belong to Madame Caglioſtro.]

The three others are hoop rings, two of diamonds, and the third of garnets;

A pair of ear-rings, nine diamonds in each; in a green ſealſkin caſe;

The portrait of Mr. Caglioſtro, a medallion, ſet with diamonds, in a caſe of ditto;

has been at great pains to illuſtrate: though the Count's want of ready caſh is a fact that muſt reaſonably have been expected from the great loſſes he had ſuſtained in Paris, and the repeated impoſitions practiſed on him in England.

The

The figure of a dove, in French, *le St. Eſprit*, compoſed of diamonds, and ſuſpended by three rows of fine pearl;

A necklace of ſmall pearl;

A pair of earrings of ſmall brilliants;

Ditto of hair, ſurrounded by diamonds. [*Theſe four laſt articles in a green caſe.*]

A pair of black ſilk bracelets, with diamond buckles;

A large hoop ring of diamonds, in a gold box, *apelle journê*;

A cluſter ring, conſiſting of one large diamond, ſurrounded with others;

Ditto of roſe;

A pearl necklace, part of it unſtrung, and contained in a ſmall gold ſnuff-box, the ground grey enamel, in a caſe of green ſealſkin;

An oval gold-colour ſnuff-box; on it are engraven the implements of gardening, in a caſe of ditto;

A ſquare box of gold, the ground waved with green, with a picture in medallion, *camazen gris*;

A ſweetmeat box of gold, in a red ſkin caſe;

A ſnuff-box in the form of a bathing-tub, the ground grey, enamelled with flowers, in a caſe of ſealſkin;

A paint box, treble gilt, with a medallion repreſenting an hôtel, in a caſe of ditto;

Ditto in gold, the ground blue, with a medallion ſurrounded with ſmall brilliants, in a caſe of ditto;

A ſmall gold box, embelliſhed with ſtars, and filled with carmine, in a caſe of ditto;

A ſmall Japan inkſtand, inlaid with gold, in a caſe of ditto;

A ſnuff-box of elk horn, in the form of a ſhoe, inlaid with gold, upon which is engraven Greek characters;

A white

A white ſhell ſweetmeat box, inlaid with gold, in a ſhagreen caſe;

A ſweetmeat box of rock-cryſtal, mounted in gold;

A toilet box of old Japan, with its bodkin and furniture in gold;

An ivory memorandum book, inlaid with gold; on it are two medallions, with the portraits of children;

A ſmall gold *etui*;

A gold-colour box, filled with aloes, in a ſealſkin caſe;

Two knives, the blade of the one gold, and of the other ſteel, the handles ivory, inlaid with green, in a caſe of ditto;

A knife, the handle mother of pearl, the ferrule and blade of gold, in a caſe of ditto;

Ditto, with a ſecret ſpring, the handle of ivory, ſtudded and capped with gold;

A punch-ladle of yellow metal, the handle of ebony

A pair of buckles, *a la Artois*, in paſte.

Five gold bracelet ſliders, with medallions of different devices;

Three gold medallions, one of which is ſurrounded with fine pearls, and held by a chain of gold, the other by a chain of granite;

A cover of fine vermilion ſtone, in a ſkin caſe;

A ſmall ſpoon of the ſame;

A portrait of Madame Caglioſtro, not mounted, in a black caſe;

An egg cup, and a tea ſtrainer, of ſilver.

A ſmall gold watch in a double caſe, ornamented with ſhell, its chain compoſed of two rows of gold, with a medallion, and ſix trinkets of the ſame;

A pair of women's ſhoe-buckles, edged with diamonds;

A knife in the form of a poniard, on the handle of which is tied a ribbon of roſe-colour and ſilver;

A pair of pearl drop earrings, in a black caſe;

A cryſtal

A cryſtal flaſk, its ſtopper, with two medallions, of gold;

A pair of ſciſſars, with gold tops, in a ſealſkin caſe.

It certainly appears ſtrange that the Government of France ſhould think the ruin of an individual an object worth ſo much ſerious attention: but the fate of M. de la Fête, ſon to the Queen of France's Chamberlain, will eaſily reconcile us to the truth, and convince us that there is no danger ſo great as that of interfering in the affairs of a jealous and politic nation. The unfortunate young man I ſpeak of, was ſo indiſcreet as to write a political pamphlet entitled 'The Devil in the Holy Water;' in conſequence of which he was obliged to eſcape the reſentment of the French Miniſters, by taking refuge in England; where having, by his conduct, diſobliged his father alſo, he was conſtrained to ren-

der his literary talents the means of his ſubſiſtence. Various ſtratagems were employed to trepan him, but without ſucceſs, till an agreeable French woman was thrown in his way. M. de la Fête ſoon became enamoured of her; and ſhe, being inſtructed in her part, expreſſed no other objection to his addreſſes than that of living in England on ſo ſmall a ſtipend as two hundred pounds a year, which was the fortune ſhe pretended to have. However, to remove this obſtacle, ſhe told him that ſhe could procure him an employment under the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe, on condition of his living in France, which, ſhe added, he might do with great ſafety by changing his name.

This propoſal was readily accepted by the infatuated M. de la Fête, who was willing to obtain the object of his deſires on any terms whatever: he ſet off with her for Bologne;

Bologne; but no ſooner had he landed than he was ſeized and dragged to priſon; ſince which time he has not ſet eyes on his dulcinea, or his pretended employer.

But to return to the Count—Finding himſelf ſurrounded by enemies, and, with regard to the actions of Priddle and Sacky, being told that the like circumſtance might happen daily without redreſs, he juſtly conceived his perſon to be unſafe in England; for which reaſon he ſet out for Switzerland in May, 1787.

On his departure he left Madame Caglioſtro in a houſe elegantly furniſhed, poſſeſſed of caſh to pay every juſt demand, and of jewels to a conſiderable amount; though the Courier de l'Europe informs us that ſhe was left in great diſtreſs, dependant on the bounty of Mr. de Loutherbourg. This is one added to the

many

many proofs of Mr. De Morande's ignorance in what relates to the Count, and of the little confidence we are to place in the information contained in his paper.

After the Count's departure Madame Caglioſtro entirely reſigned herſelf to the guidance of Mr. and Mrs. de Loutherbourg, who unfortunately received information that Priddle pretended to have another demand, which would empower him to ſeize on the Count's effects. Whether or not Mr. Priddle really intended to attempt any other manœuvre, it is impoſſible to determine. Mr. de Loutherbourg however communicated his intelligence to Madame Caglioſtro, who, by his advice, immediately ſold off her furniture, and took up her abode in his houſe,

She remained there till the beginning of laſt June, when having received letters from

from the Couut informing her that he was ſettled in a houſe, ſhe purchaſed a genteel carriage, and ſet off, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. de Loutherbourg, for Switzerland; where it is to be hoped ſhe will, with the Count, enjoy that tranquillity the Engliſh nation would ſo amply have afforded them had they, inſtead of connecting themſelves wholly with foreigners, formed their friendſhips with perſons of character acquainted with its eſtabliſhed laws and cuſtoms. *

* Madame Caglioſtro, before ſhe left England, paid every juſt demand on the Count, notwithſtanding the aſſertions of the Marquis de Lanſegneux, and Mr. Bell, the magnetizing Doctor, to the contrary; who, mean and ſervile as they were in their attendance on Mr. Caglioſtro, during his reſidence in Slone-Street, have, ſince his departure, made it their buſineſs to fabricate and circulate reports to his diſadvantage. But we ceaſe to wonder at this, on a recollection that the Editor of the Courier de l'Europe, that grand machine by which theſe leſſer engines are ſet in motion, is reſolved that no part of the world ſhall ſhield the Count Caglioſtro from his ſcurrility.

Having now traced this extraordinary man through a life chequered with grandeur and adverſity, I will endeavour to give the reader a general idea of his perſon and character.

The Count de Caglioſtro is below the middle ſtature, inclined to corpulency; his face is a round oval; his complexion and eyes dark, the latter uncommonly penetrating. In his addreſs we are not ſenſible of that indiſcribable grace which engages the affections before we conſult the underſtanding. On the contrary, there is in his manner a ſelf-importance which, at firſt ſight, rather diſguſts than allures, and obliges us to withhold our regard till, on a more intimate acquaintance, we yield it the tribute to our reaſon. Though naturally ſtudious and contemplative, his converſation

tion is ſprightly; abounding with judicious remarks and pleaſant anecdotes; yet, with an underſtanding in the higheſt degree perſpicuous and enlarged, he is ever rendered the dupe of the ſycophant and the flatterer.

Mr. Caglioſtro's heart and purſe are ever open to the ſupplications of diſtreſs; but there is in his mode of beſtowing a pompoſity which frequently renders that liberality aſcribed to oſtentation, which is, in reality, the effect of a truly compaſſionate and beneficent heart.

Far from being ſchooled in the ſcience of deception, he poſſeſſes a noble frankneſs which does honour to human nature; a diſpoſition open and unreſerved even to a a fault. In his attachments he is warm

and

and ſteady; and, though eaſily provoked to choler, it is a ſtorm which, like thoſe of ſummer, quickly paſs over.

Brutality toward his lady is one of thoſe falſe charges brought againſt him by his enemies—a weak and unmanly one indeed! "By what authority," ſays the Count, "does "Mr. De Morande dare to interrogate me "on my private life? Who has appointed "him my domeſtic cenſor? Was I in- "deed ſo unjuſt, ſo very baſe, as to treat "with unkindneſs the virtuous companion "of my misfortunes, ſtill it would be her "part only to complain; while ſhe is "ſilent there is not a man, be he "magiſtrate or monarch, who has a right "to draw aſide the veil with which her "indulgent tenderneſs would cover my "imperfections."

To

To conclude—In the Count Cagliostro we perceive eminent virtues break forth amidst a cloud of human frailties. His character, like most others, is a compound of light and shade; we shall find many more uniform, but few that possess a greater degree of universal benevolence.

THE END.

ERRATA.

Page	Line	
54	6	*for* his, *read* the Count's.
70	9	*for* who professed, *read* who did not profess.

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